THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 8TH JANUARY.

BABU BIPRODAS PAL CHOWDRY, now in England, has sent us the following letter:

As a rule people of our country are slow to adopt any thing new even when its usefulness and importance are proved beyond any doubt by other nations; they would rather suffer than depart from their accustomed ways. Preaching either in lecture halls or in the columns of newspapers has hardly more than a momentary effect on their minds, which dies away almost simultaneously with their coming out of the hall or laying down the paper. It is not that they are slow to see the usefulness of any new departure but to put it in actual practice, even when they are thoroughly convinced of the usefulness—nay the necessity of such departure.

In my previous letters my object was not to enlighten my countrymen on the subject but to call their attention to it and urge them to take some steps towards putting it into actual practice. The importance of establishing various manufacturing industries is well-known and universally acknowledged by the educated class of our country, in some parts it is even successfully put into practice. The experimental stage has long been over, showing in almost all cases extremely satisfactory results. But up to present time not much progress has been made on starting factories with improved European machinery in a scale bearing any reasonable proportion to the internal demands alone of the country. Mr. James Caird M.P., one of the members of the Famine Commission of 1879, whilst inspecting a cotton mill within the neighbourhood of Bombay writes thus in the *Nineteenth Century*: "The wages in comparison with Lancashire are as nearly as possible in the proportion of one months's work here (Bombay) for one week's there (Lancashire). The Lancashire machinist who superintends the working says that under such circumstances Manchester cannot compete with them in Indian goods." Notwithstanding the above the value of the imports of cotton goods alone in 1881-82 was 2399 lakhs of rupees! If the cotton goods were instead of being imported from foreign countries manufactured at home, what a large number of hands would have found permanent employment and escaped starvation during famines, which of late are not unfrequent in our country. Let it not be understood by this that I am opposed to any foreign importation; it is one of the fundamental principles of free trade that cheapest market should be upheld, if we could import an article cheaper than what it would cost us to make at home I should certainly advocate its importation; but it is a great mistake and loss to the country to import articles which can be made at home quite as cheap—nay cheaper.

We are paying for our inactivity, as exclaimed a British workman to me whilst standing by him, just as he expeditiously finished a piece of exceptionally hard manual work. "Hit hard and quick, that's the way we fight when called on," all who have our country's welfare at their hearts cannot do better than to 'hit hard and quick' at this ruinous inactivity—the root of all our evils.

Now to come to the more practical part of the question To make any modern manufacturing industry a commercial success it is essentially necessary to have men possessing experience in particular branch of industry. This can be accomplished either by securing the services of experienced men from this or any other European country, or by sending out young educated men from our country to Europe or America to learn the practical parts of various manufacturing business. The first, besides being a more costly way, is one which cannot for several well-known reasons be expected to last for any length of time, but at the same time it is the quickest way to the practical solution of the question. The second, though the best and most secure in the long run, will necessitate several years' delay, which we can ill afford, when each year's delay means loss of so many millions to the country. To take the advantages and avoid the disadvantages of both we must adopt both the means. Our first effort, to prevent any unnecessary delay, ought therefore to be toward the establishments of various manufacturing industries with the aid of experienced men brought from Europe. But we must not stop here. No institution whether political, social or commercial can ever be called national until the natives of the country take leading part in it. Let us follow Lord Ripon in this case as well, let us amongst other branches of profession educate our countrymen in various manufacturing industries as well, so that we might gradually substitute them for Europeans to take in hand the management of factories established in India, not because that the natives of India will manage any better than the Europeans, but because it is their duty to look after things which concern them most. Therefore along with the formation of joint-stock companies for starting manufacturies with the aid of European experience and European skill, we must send young educated men from our schools and colleges to Europe to learn various manufacturing industries. That our countrymen when properly educated can prove themselves quite equal to their European brethren of the same profession, is a fact well established and requires no further proof. But it is greatly to be regretted that whilst so many of our countrymen have come and are now coming to England or other European countries to study either for bar, medicine, civil service or any other profession which would in future affect principally their own selves alone, there are none or hardly any come to learn the manufacting industries of Europe, which would not only benefit their own selves but millions of their fellow-countrymen. It might be urged that the majority of our students coming to England are from the middle class and have not sufficient means to start works on their own account, but knowledge and capital required for any such enterprise need not be in one person, it is only their combination that is required. Let the rich come forward with their capital and the middle class with their technical knowledge, and supplement each other.

Yours faithfully,
BIPRODAS PAL CHOUDHURI.

Orwell Works Ipswich,
16th December, 1882.

ANOTHER LONDON CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows:

My friend Dr. Satishchundra Mukerji will within a day or two leave this country for returning home. As he is one of the few Indian gentlemen, who have obtained a respectable M. D. degree, I think a brief account of his academical career may be interesting to my countrymen and I hope you will publish this letter in your journal. Born about 1854 in the district of Nuddea, he was at first sent to the school of his native town. He then came to Calcutta and was brought up by his first cousin Radhikaprosunna Mukerji, with a brotherly care and attention. In course of time Mr. Mukerji matriculated at the University of Calcutta from the "Metropolitan Institution" in Calcutta and joined the Medical College of that city; his studies were here often interrupted by ill-health. About this time he became a son-in-law of Babu Debendranath Tagore On April 12th, 1876, he started for London to continue his medical studies in Europe. From the summer session of 1876 up to the winter session of 1878-79 he regularly attended several classes in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. In the summer of 1879 Mr. Mukerji became a surgical dresser under Prof. Joseph Lister at King's College, London, and attended the clinical lectures of that distinguished surgeon. In the winter-session of 1879-80 he joined the University of Edinburgh and attended some lectures there. In April 1880 he obtained the degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Master of Surgery, at the University of Aberdeen after having gone through the requisite examinations in the theory and practice of Medicine and Surgery. In the winter session of 1880-81 Mr. Mukerji studied Hygiene under Prof. Corfield at University College, London. In October 1881 he obtained the certificate in Sanitary Science (Hygeine, Public Health) at the University of Cambridge after having approved himself at the searching examinations held for that qualification. In order to acquire further proficiency in his profession he went over to Austria in November 1881, and after staying some months at Prague he joined the famous University of Vienna, one of the chief seats of medical study in the world, and attended special courses of lectures in several branches of medicine and surgery during the winter and the following summer. In Vienna and other places Mr. Mukerji devoted his special attention to the study of Midwifery, Diseases of women and children, and Eye Disease, at the same time that he made a general study of other subjects. He has also given much time and great attention to Hygiene and Public Health, and as already stated has qualified himself in these subjects. In April 1882 he obtained the Degree of Doctor of Medicine at the University of Aberdeen after having previously gone through the requisite examinations and after having written for this degree a thesis on Malaria. In Aberdeen Dr. S. Mukerji obtained honor in Anatomy and Surgery at the class examinations, and in Edinburgh he obtained honours in Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health.

I have had the pleasure of looking into Dr. S. Mukerji's testimonials from the several professors under whom he prosecuted his studies; and I have to state that all the professors speak of him in high terms and wish him success in the practice of his profession. Among the professors under whom he studied in Great Britain may be mentioned the names of Doctors Lister, Pirrie, Struthers, Corfield, and Littlejohn. In Austria he studied under several distinguished men among whom may be mentioned the names of Doctors Mikulicz (Billroth's assistant), Ultzmann, Schrotter, Herz (Arlt's assistant,) Dimmer, (Arlt's assistant) Monti, Fernwald, and Briesky, Billroth, Arlt, Fernwald, and Briesky the Medical advisers of the Emperor of Austria.

From my long intimate acquaintance with Dr S. Mukerji I can confidently say that the diligence and intelligence with which he carried on his studies in Europe would do credit to any student, whether Indian or European. His particularly agreeable disposition and modest behaviour have endeared him to all with whom he came into contact in this country and on the continent. It may be hoped that the people of Bengal would recognise his distinguished merits and would give him field for the exercise of the great skill he has acquired in his profession. When a large amount of the capital of a country is expended in educating a person and is thus converted into personal capital, the people of that country ought to make the best use of the personal capital. In his boyhood Dr. S. Mukerji had observed how greatly the people in the villages and small towns of India suffer from want of qualified medical men; and his chief object in adopting the medical profession was the desire of alleviating the sufferings of his countrymen.

P. MUKERJI.
B. Sc. (Lond).

TUESDAY, 9TH JANUARY.

OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT at Jeypore sends us the following account of the Exhibition:

JEYPORE, 5TH JANUARY, 1883.

The 1st January of the year 1883 will long be remembered as one of the memorable days in the annals of the Jeypore State. The Exhibition of the works of art and manufactures and raw products, for which preparations were being made for some time, was opened on this day in the presence of the Maharaja, the Governor-General's agent for Rajputana, the Political Agent for Jeypore and the Political Agents of the neighbouring states. There were present besides these more than fifty ladies and gentlemen, who came from the Lahore, Madras and Bombay Schools of Art and who had been invited to attend the Exhibition as jurors. The native jurors comprised Rai Kanylal Dey Bahadoor and Babu T. N. Mookerjee of the Department of Revenue and Agriculture from Calcutta, Munshi Seo Narayan Vice-Chairman of the Agra Municipality, and Babu Charoo Chunder Mitter of Allahabad. The place where the Exhibition is held is a magnificent structure newly built and the inaugural meeting was held on a specious terrace opposite the building. The Maharaja and his suite with the political officers attended precisely at 10 P.M. when Surgeon-Major Bendley, Honorary Secretary to the Exhibition Committee, opened the business by reading the Report of the Committee, him followed Kumar Prithi Sing, an educated young man and son of a Councillor of the State, who read a Hindi version of the Report. Colonel Bradford, Governor-General's Agent for Rajputana, next declared the Exhibition open with a short speech, taking a review of the past proceedings of the state in connection with the several institutions established and maintained for the propagation of education and encouragement of arts and industries. The doors of the Exhibition building having been thrown open the visitors inspected the articles laid out to view. It needs here to be mentioned that the collection made was purposely limited to a defined area in order to mark the local character of the Exhibition. The provinces from which the exhibits were drawn are Rajputana, Central India, Cis-sutlege states and the adjoining British districts. In a few special articles, collections, were obtained from Lahore, Bombay British Burmah and Bengal. It is not possible to give a detailed description of the articles, exhibited in a newspaper report, all that we can do is simply to indicate the various classes in which they are included. We shall first mention the articles of rare value and beauty and antiquarian interest some of which have been sent on loan for exhibition merely. There were besides some rare books and manuscripts, the most important among which was a copy of the *Futwa Alumgiri* valued at Rs. 3,00,000 and 155 years old; there was another antiquarian work, the *Dewan Moujami* in Persian, about 427 years old. Amongst the art manufactures were two crowns, and a *pugri* set with diamonds rubies, pearls and saphires valued at from Rs. 53,000 to Rs. 1,37,000 There is a silver telescopic dining table which has attracted much notice from its curious workmanship—it is intersected on the surface with glass-covered water-courses in which the water is seen running from end to end. The Maharaja of Jeypore exhibited two very old carpets from Candahar which cannot be seen now-a-days. There were besides a large collection of diamonds and other precious stones contributed by the Maharaja of Panna valued at about five lakhs of rupees. Among other valuable silver and gold ornaments set with gems may be mentioned an unset black diamond and an unset black table diamond from Panna. The other noticeable works of art are models of the Jeypore Palace, a tricycle made by the Jeypore school of Art which might be mistaken for one of European manufacture. Jeypore and Agra stone and marble plates, dolls and household utensils, woolen table cloths, circular and oblong, pressed and matted but not woven. The arms and armoury from the Native States were objects of great attraction. The Raw Produce Department of the Exhibition was of very great importance, though not appreciated by the native visitors, in an economic and scientific point of view. They comprised metals, ores and alloys, mineral substances used in making glass, pottery, &c, building materials, mineral dyes, colour, and ochres, rough minerals, salts, mineral drugs, geological specimens, food stuffs, animal drugs, skins, leathers bones, ram-horns, perfumery, dyes, lac, cochineal grass and fodder plants, dried fruits and roots, intoxicating drugs, vegetable drugs, spices, sugar, honey, gums and fragrant oils and utters, soap, dye stuffs, textile fabrics, seeds, woods and timbers. The embroidered clothes and elephant trappigs and works in brass and compound metals deserve notice and have special interest. Raja Shourindra Mohun Tagore Mus. Doc. C. I. E. has sent a splendid collection of musical instruments and his recent works on music and jewellery which have attracted great attention and created great interest. They have been specially noticed and commended in the Committee's Report. He has also sent a collection of precious stones artistically arranged.

The jurors assembled from the different parts of the country are now busy in examining the articles in their respective departments in order to make a report and give their awards.

THE BEHAR HERALD has the following:

"A case was fixed by the Magistrate for being taken up in the presence of the Pleaders and Mukhtears of the parties at the Sudder Station on a certain day. The Magistrate goes into the interior on the previous day, and calls up the case in his camp in an outlying village, and, in the absence of the Pleaders and Mukhtears, at once issues a warrant for the arrest of the defendant."

Magisterial vagaries will never cease.

A HAWAIIAN ENVOY has been in Japan to arrange for the introduction of Japanese immigrants into the Sandwich Islands. The Hawaiian native population are dying out, and the Chinese are flowing in to take their places in such numbers as to alarm the Government.

THE TURKISH Consul at Colombo is organising a reception to welcome Arabi, and the congregation of a Mahomedan mosque in that town has granted him a sum of money from the funds of the Mosque for the

purpose of the ceremony. So the rebel is forgotten in the patriot.

UNDER THE Indian Coinage Act the Government of India has authorized the under-mentioned officers to cut or break coin, which has lost in weight by wear and tear:

1. Every officer in charge of a District Treasury.
2. Every Assistant Collector, Deputy collector, Assistant commissioner, or Extra Assistant commissioner in charge of a Sub-Treasury.
3. Every commissioner, Deputy or Assistant commissioner of the Department of Paper Currency.
4. The Mint Masters, Calcutta and Bombay.
5. The Secretary and Treasurer of each of the Presidency Banks, and every Agent in charge of a branch of any of the said Banks.
6. The Secretary, Manager or other principal officer of the several offices and agencies in India of each of the following Banks:—

Agra Bank, Limited; Chartered Mercantile Bank; Chartered Bank of India; Comptoir D'Escompte de Paris; Delhi and London Bank, Limited; National Bank of India, Limited; Oriental Bank Corporation; Alliance Bank of Simla, Limited; Simla Bank Corporation, Limited.

7. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, or the Secretary of the Calcutta Port Improvement Commissioners, Bombay Port Trustees, Rangoon Port Commissioners.
8. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, President, Vice-President, or Secretary of the Presidency Municipalities.
9. And any officer of any other Municipality authorised by the Local Government or Administration.

THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA has issued a Resolution remitting the duty on the salt for the manufacture of soap and alkali.

WEDNESDAY, 10TH JANUARY.

THE LAHORE TRIBUNE makes the following remarks on the Rent Bill controversy:

It is not for us to fight from this distant part of the country the battle either of the Zemindar or of the ryot. Both have got advocates strong enough to do battle for them to the utmost. We would only observe that though we heartily wish the actual wrongs of the ryot may be redressed, we cannot at the same time help wishing that the Zemindar may not be exposed to needless embarrassment and trouble. The Zemindars are a most useful body in the social and political economy of the Lower Provinces and we have no hesitation in saying that much of the prosperity and advancement of those provinces is due to them. There is one thing more which deserves to be noticed. Sir Richard Garth, though he may be a conservative lawyer, has no motive in upholding the interests of the Zemindars. His advocacy is to a great extent the outcome of his conviction.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR of the N. W. P. has appointed a Bengali gentleman to be Judge of the Small Cause Court at Agra in the room of Mr. Shircore deceased. He is Babu Promoda Churn Banerjea, Subordinate Judge of Allahabad.

WE HAVE before us the rejoinder of the Maharaja of Travancore to the reply of Rev. Mr. Johnson on the subject of education in India. We give the following extract from it:

Although I abstain, as a rule, from touching the substance of the body of your "Reply," I will not be justified, as representing the Royalty and Nobility of India, in refraining from meeting one assertion in it. You say:—"There is little doubt but that this practical exclusion of religious teaching is one of the reasons why many of the noblest and best of the Hindu and Mahomedan families hold aloof from our schools and Colleges, and are thus shut out from the Government service." To this I can say that *it is not so*. The reason why the Hindu and Mahomedan chiefs do not send their youth to the ordinary Government schools and Colleges *is not that the Vedas and Kuran are not taught there*, but because they do not wish their children should herd with common boys and run the risk of losing their gentility and learning vulgarity. I do not think that the Rajkumar Colleges in Indore and Ajmere teach religion. Yet there are many young chiefs and noblemen receiving their education in them. When I said, in my "Letter" to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, that "the Madras Presidency, so far as I am aware, does not contain a single Rajkumar College or School," I meant to point out the desirability of instituting Colleges and schools exclusively for the nobility, and *not of teaching religion* in them.

Well said.

IN PURSUANCE of the Government policy of paying greater attention than has hitherto been paid to public opinion on legislative matters, as reflected in the English and native press, Sir W. Wedderburn suggests the establishment of a monthly or fortnightly magazine, which "without having any views or policy of its own, should faithfully reproduce the views and policy of the existing journals throughout India." This is a good idea.

THE LEADER of the party of Cachari fanatics who killed Major Boyd a year ago in the North Cachar Hills has been killed in attempting to escape capture.

THE "TRADE RETURNS of British India" for the seven months ended on the 31st October last show a total import of about 38½ crores of rupees, as against 33 crores in the same period of 1881. Out of this, 9¾ crores were treasure as against 5 crores in 1881, Bombay alone importing the huge sum of over 8 crores. The total exports were about 45½ crores, as against 42½ crores in 1881, so that the balance of trade in our favor was about 7 crores. The gross trade to and fro *via* the Suez Canal amounted to over 51 crores, as against 45 crores in 1881, and 43 crores in 1880. Besides, there is a very considerable coasting trade, from port, in the various Presidencies and Provinces amounting altogether to no less than 30 crores, of which 26 crores were Indian produce and manufactures, and foreign merchandise; the balance being treasure. Bombay absorbed 12½ crores of this coasting trade, Bengal about 6 crores, and Madras about 4 crores; whilst British Burmah figures for 3½ crores.

THURSDAY, 11TH JANUARY.

SIR ALFRED LYALL in his new book mourns that the system of the British Government in India "fosters the soft weak populations which swarm in the tropical lowlying regions * * * which have no real political future, and only damage free institutions by burlesques that we shall some day become tired and ashamed of bringing out under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen." This is not a bad straw to show the direction in which the wind is blowing. It will be edifying to our Bengal readers, and may also be interesting to His Excellency the Viceroy anent his self-government move. But Sir Alfred's Government is pursuing the very policy he condemns.

A CORRESPONDENT at Bhangore complains of the blocking up of the navigable portions of the khal below the place owing to a large influx of boats into it at tidal periods as dangerous to dingis and passenger-boats and says that many sad accidents now and then take place not so much for the carelessness of the manjhis themselves as for the rush of boats within a narrow compass. He suggests that the Calcutta Canal Act be extended to this khal.

AT A MEETING of the Dibrugarh People's and Rate-Payers' Association, a copy of the report of which has been sent to us, the Assam Land Revenue Regulations and Rent Bills were taken into consideration. Babu Radha Nath Changkakoti, the worthy and energetic Secretary to the Association, addressed the meeting at some length and explained the objectionable features of the Regulations by stating (1) That they were incomplete and uncertain as power was reserved to the Chief Commissioner to add to and alter them, (2) That the right of occupancy clause had been totally ignored, although the British Government, not to speak of the Assam Raj, had upheld it until a recent date, (3) That the Municipal rules contained therein tend to make the tenures insecure, (4) That the salutary principles laid down in the Preamble to Regulation II of 1793 have been disregarded, and lastly that the control of the High Court will be practically done away with by the curtailment of the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts. It was resolved that a Committee should be appointed to draw up a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy on the subject. It is strange that while the Government insists upon occupancy right for ryots on private estates, it should deny it to its own ryots in Assam.

A CORRESPONDENT at Nabigunj in Sylhet says that the Chief Commissioner's tour to that place has been attended with more harm than good. The Munsif's Court has been removed from that station to the great inconvenience and hardship of the people. The district, he writes, is being split into two divisions, an arrangement, which will not only circumscribe the limits of the Sylhet district but will also entail additional expenditure on Government. The crowning act of Mr. Elliot's retrograde policy is his "Draft of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation." The districts of Sylhet and Goalpara had hitherto enjoyed the benefit of the Permanent Settlement, but the Bill proposes to resume lands not included in the settlement, although such possession has gone on for sixty years. Has Mr. Elliot forgotten the fate of Mr. Mangles' Resumption law? Cholera is prevailing in the sub-division and nearly 300 people have fallen victims to it. The outturn of the Amun crop has not been quite satisfactory for want of timely rain.

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPUR CORRESPONDENT writes:

"Mr. Mi'stus, the new sub-divisional officer of Kushtea, is winning golden opinions. He is mixing with the peop'e, and working zealous'y for the improvement of the Local Dispensary and School.

Babu Madhub Chandra Chakravarti, B.L the new Small Cause Court Judge of the place has also won the good will of the people by his discriminating justice. It is to be hoped that he will take steps to remedy the inconvenience caused to suitors in consequence of occasional want of Court fee stamps for filing cases owing to the periodic absence of the sub-divisional officer on tour. Why should not the Sub-Deputy Collector be placed in *ad-interim* charge of the Treasury?

During the Commissioner's late tour to the sub-division a deputation consisting of some leading men of the town and its vicinity waited on him at Poradah to represent the desirability of re-opening the Sharon Khal blocked up by the N. B. S. Railway. Mr. Edgar has promised to consider the matter and a memorial has been sent up to him.

FRIDAY, 12TH JANUARY.

WE HOPE the rumour is not true that Mr. Sinnett, the editor of the *Pioneer*, has received from the proprietors of that journal notice to quit on one year's gratuity. Is this the penalty which he is called upon to pay for the recent change in the tone of the *Pioneer* towards the children of the soil? We can hardly believe that in these days of progressive government the proprietors of such an influential organ of public opinion as the *Pioneer* should wish to stick to the old tradition of repressing the natives of the country.

MR. H. J. S. COTTON, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, takes furlough for eight months. It is rumoured that either Mr. Stevens or Mr. Grimley will act for him.

MR. MAHOMED ROGAY was lately amongst us. He is a leading Mahomedan gentleman of Bombay and is noted for much public spirit.

THE QUESTION of the proposed Central Board of Control stands in this way. The Government of India has forwarded Mr. Thompson's scheme to the Secretary of State for sanction. In the meantime Mr. J. W. Edgar, officiating Presidency Commissioner, is talked of as Chairman of the Board.

IT IS STATED that the Judge of Patna has recommended to Government the abolition of the jury system in the district of Patna.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER of Assam has issued new rules for the employment of clerks in Government offices. There will be a competitive test, but we are glad to notice that the Chief Commissioner of Assam unlike the Government of India recognizes academic degrees. We give below the rule on this subject:

A "Suitable candidate" who has passed the First Arts, or any higher University Examination will be entitled, without further examination, to full marks in English and arithmetic. Any suitable candidate who has passed the University Entrance examination will be similarly entitled to four-fifths of full marks for the same subject, and also for Bengali or Assamese if he took up those languages for the examination. Any suitable candidate who has passed the middle school examination, including English will be entitled to half marks in the same subjects. Any suitable candidate who has passed the middle school examination in Bengali or Assamese will be similarly entitled to half marks for those languages. A "suitable candidate" who holds a Survey certificate from the Survey Department of having passed in Surveying will be similarly entitled to full marks in surveying, if the subject has been notified as required for the vacancy for which a candidate may offer himself. A "suitable candidate" who has passed the pleader's examination by the 1st or 2nd grade will be similarly entitled to full marks in law if law has been notified as a subject required for the vacancy for which the candidate may offer himself. Any candidate who prefers to be examined instead of claiming the marks due to his previously proved educational (or other) efficiency may be so examined. But in such case he will obtain only the marks he may earn by examination.

We commend this rule to the Government of India.

SATURDAY, 13TH JANUARY.

THE REPUBLIC of America is to have an aristocracy. It is to be called the "Aryan order of Americans," of which General A. P. Stewart, of the University of Mississippi, has been elected Provost-General. Those only will be entitled to join the order who belong to one of the following classes;—1. Male descendants from the Colonial Governors, and Chief Justices. 2 Descendants from the signers of the Declaration of Independence. 3. Male descendants of the Knights of the Order of the Cincinnati (Revolutionary field officer). 4. Resident European nobility. This is a new sign of the times.

THE PIONEER'S Calcutta Correspondent has the following:

I am sorry to hear that an attempt is to be made in Parliament to extract party capital out of the Bill, the Conservative party having it in contemplation to base an attack against Lord Ripon's administration upon the Minute which Sir Richard Garth so rashly penned. The democratic tendencies of the Viceroy's policy are to be pointed out, the moral to be drawn being the danger to our dominion in India, involved on the introduction of principles of government suited only to the highly civilized communities of the Western world. The Secretary of State's hands have been fortified by a report from the Government of India, containing fresh minutes by Mr. O'Kinealy, Mr. Mackenzie, and Brojendra Coomar Seal, demolishing the position taken up by the Chief Justice; and from all I hear, the attack will inevitably prove a *fiasco*.

We do hope that the Bengal Rent Bill will not be made a subject of party warfare. It will be a bad day for the country if Indian politics should get entangled in the whirlpool of English party politics.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL TIMES thus speaks of the physique of the Indian soldiers, who visited England from Egypt: "They are all men of active muscular frame, lithe, and enduring, and mostly of commanding height. They dislike the gloom of our November weather, but can bear as well as a Londoner its changes and its lowness of temperature."

THE NUMBER of persons who visited the Indian Museum in December last was 28,436, of whom 24,160 were native males, 3206 native females, 815 European males and 225 European females; the

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average being 1291 on the days the Museum was kept open to the public.

MR. JONES, the Resident at Hyderabad, it is stated, will succeed Mr. Morris as Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. Mr. Grant, the Foreign Secretary, will not, we believe, accept the appointment.

MR. GRANT DUFF we are sorry to observe still shews temper in the matter of the *Madras Times*. A copy of the paper was supplied to the Government as usual, and the following note was sent to the manager:

"The *Madras Times* has only been subscribed to for Government House up to the 31st of December 1882.

"The numbers for the 1st and 3rd January which have been delivered at Government House by mistake are herewith returned."

The above was sent without signature. A Governor of a province ought to be above petty spite.

WE READ in the *Pioneer* that at a special general meeting of the Bombay Municipal Corporation, the Hon'ble Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik moved that "this Corporation humbly offers its respectful thanks to H. E the Viceroy for his noble efforts to systematize and properly direct the measures for the extension and consolidation of local self-government in India and expresses the earnest hope that in the Bills now under consideration the Municipal laws of Bombay, passed by the Government of Sir Seymour Fitzerald and Sir P. Wodehouse, may be further amended by investing the representatives of the city with a larger and more substantial share in the administration of their own affairs." An example for Calcutta.

WE HAVE received a statement of the grievances of the clerks in the Goods Department at Howrah. It is stated that the lascars and Eurasian clerks get preference before them, that they receive no promotion or increase, and that they are not fairly treated by their immediate superiors. If Mr. Bradford Leslie will kindly make a personal enquiry into the matter, not in the usual red-tape style, he may know the whole truth about it.

WITH REFERENCE to the Khurdah ghat case a correspondent has sent us a letter, for which we cannot make room in *extenso*, saying that the two rooms attached to the shed are Gunga-jatri rooms which the doner cannot rightly claim for his private use. He pertinently asks how could the doner build private rooms on public land. How is it that this point is not cleared up in the papers relating to the subject?

THE TOTAL number of deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 6th January were 321, that is to say 61 from cholera, 71 from fevers, 41 from bowel-complaints, 6 from accidents, and 137 from all other causes. The ratio per mille per annum was 38·6.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. The Principles of the Hindu Law of Inheritance by Rajkumara Sarvadhicari. 2. Report of the Census of the N W. Provinces and Oudh, 1881. 3. Administration Report of the Persian Gulf Political Residency for 1881-82. 4. Report of the Protector of Immigrants to Saint Lucia for 1881. 5. Report of the Registration Department of the Punjab for 1881-82. 6. Report of the Stamp Department of the Punjab for 1881-82. 7. Cook's Indian Tours, 1882-83. 8. A Guide to English Composition in Bengali by a Teacher. 9. The Stationary Trades' Journal for December 1882. 10. Report of the Dalhousie Institute, Calcutta, for 1882. 11. Bharat Mitra Sheet Almanac in Hindi for 1883. 12. A Key to a book of Golden Deeds with Introductory hints and analyses by W. T. Webb, M. A. 13. A Paper on Public Works Polity in France, &c., by A. G. Hughes. 14. Srutasvatara-Upanishad with commentary and a Bengali translation by Mohesa Chandra Pal, Honorary President of the "Nerapeksha Dharma Sancharini-Sabha." 15. Monthly Price List of Printing Paper, &c., of J. Dickenson, for January 1883.

WE HAVE received a copy of the programme of the Friendly Union of Santipore, which will be held on the 21st Magh current and continued for four days. The programme comprises gymnastics, games, discourses, music, &c. Friendly gatherings of this kind in Mofussil towns are much to be desired.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London January 6.—Lord Granville has notified to the French Government that the British Government has no fresh proposal to submit respecting the control in Egypt. The circular despatch of British Government to the Powers explains the course of events and the British action in Egypt. Our future action is not, however, referred to, except as regards the freedom of the Suez Canal navigation. Mr Trevelyan has returned to Dublin after a tour of inspection in the distressed districts in the west of Ireland. *Obituary.*—General Ghazni.

8.—The British Circular respecting Egypt will be presented to the Porte first, and afterwards to the Great Powers. The Queen has appointed the Duke of Cambridge personal Aide-de-Camp in recognition of his services in connection with the Egyptian campaign. According to a basis of agreement between England and Portugal relative to Congo, the latter cedes Whydah to Great Britain. Mr. Gladstone is indisposed. Doctor Clark, who has been summoned to Hawarden, declares him to be overworked, and advises rest. His visit to Midlothian has in consequence been abandoned. Doctor Lyon Playfair has resigned the Chairmanship of committees of the House of Commons.

9.—Mr. Gladstone is suffering from insomnia, but there is nothing alarming in his condition. Sir C. Dilke has been re-elected member for Chelsea unopposed.

10.—The Prince of Wales will lay the foundation stone of the Indian Institute at Oxford in February. The Suez Canal Company have finally decided to postpone making a new Canal parallel to the present one, and to proceed with the works in connexion with the construction of the three great stations at Kantara, Timsah and Kilometic station No. 133. *Obituary,*—Baron Martin.

12.—Mr. Gladstone is confined to his room and has been forbidden by his physicians to do any work.

Paris, January 6.—The funeral of M. Gambetta to-day was of the most imposing and impressive character. Upwards of 250,000 were present, and numerous orations were delivered in which the speakers emphasised Gambetta's affection for a case and his patriotic hopes for the future. Mr. Duclero's reply to Lord Granville is most cordial. The negotiations respecting the Control in Egypt are closed, an understanding being impossible.

7.—General Chanzy's funeral will be at the expence of the State.

11.—The body of M. Gambetta will be translated to-morrow to Nice, and the interment will take place there on the following day.

Caire, January 11.—The English Comptroller General and his Secretary have resigned. The Khedive has accepted their resignation. The rumoured impending withdrawal of a portion of the British army of occupation is authoritatively denied. The Khedive has issued a decree appointing an Indemnity Commission, the President and Vice-President of which will be Egyptians. The great Powers will have separate Commissioners, and the other Powers one Commissioner collectively. Indirect claims will not be admitted by the Commission.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1883.

THE DECCAN AGRICULTURISTS' RELIEF ACT.

THE reader doubtless remembers that the system of conciliation is one of the leading features of Mr. Hope's Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act. This system was borrowed from the French law Its working has not hitherto been satisfactory. Mr. Justice Reynold West, of the Bombay High Court, in his able pamphlet on the Deccan Ryots' Act, which we noticed at the time it made its appearance, mercilessly condemned the system of conciliation. His condemnation does not seem to have been unjust. Papers from the returns attached to the report of Dr. Pollen, the Special Judge appointed under the Act, shew that there were something like 70,000 applications made to the conciliators during 1881, and that in 25,000 of these cases the party invited to attend neglected or refused to appear. Such being the case, the Government of Bombay urged that the power of compelling attendance should be conferred upon conciliators appointed under the Act. The recommendation of the Bombay Government was embodied in the Bill to amend the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, which has just found a place on the statute-book. But when the Bill came to be considered by the Select Committee, after a very full consideration of the arguments adduced on both sides, they struck out the 11th sections, which sought to empower a conciliator, whose assistance is invoked by one party to a dispute to compel the attendance of the opposite party. Mr. Gibbs moved an amendment, with a view to restore the section, which had been rejected by the Select Committee. This motion naturally gave rise to an interesting and instructive debate on the merits and defects of the system of conciliation. Mr. Crosthwaite pertinently observed in the course of the debate that the effect of the amendment, which Mr. Gibbs had proposed, would be that the 25,000 persons, who refused to appear before conciliators, as mentioned above, might be compelled to attend, and that before the Legislative Council authorized such a measure of compulsion it ought to be satisfied that the conciliators should not abuse their power. Every sensible and right-minded person will concur in this view.

Dr. Pollen, the Special Judge, does not consider the conciliation system to be quite unobjectionable. "The chief objection I have to the system," he writes, "is that it tends to encourage collusive agreements and to multiply to a great extent one of the principal objects of the Act, namely, the relief from debt of the indebted agriculturists, by the facilities which it affords for evading that searching inquiry into the merits of each transaction, which to my mind is the most important means of relief afforded by the Act. There are many conscientious and zealous conciliators, who seek to probe the true merits of such case, and who use all their influence to persuade the parties to come to an equitable compromise. Other conciliators are easy-going, and such persons are apt to be made mere registrars for giving legal sanction to the claims presented to them. Large number of conciliation-agreements are little better than mere renewal bonds supplanting old deeds. In former reports I have enlarged upon this subject, and it will here suffice thus briefly to refer to my views. I have only to mention in this connection a new practice which seems to be growing up in some places. When a loan is being negotiated, in avoiding the trouble and expense of writing out a bond on stamped paper and of having it formally registered by a Village-Registrar, the parties go before a conciliator. The creditor makes a demand. The debtor admits the debt and promises to pay in certain sums and at certain times as may have been fixed upon. The conciliator takes down the agreement in writing. It is signed by the parties. It is then sent to Court and takes effect as a decree. The dispute and the pleaders are a kind of legal fiction to give the conciliator jurisdiction. The lender thus gets what is equivalent not only to a registered bond, but to a registered bond with a decree cut and dry already tacked thereto, and this he gets, without stamped paper, registration or litigation—by the mere collusion or consent of the borrower. In this way the stamp and registration laws are easily evaded. I do not think a state of thing like this was ever contemplated. It does not, however, appear illegal." This is a striking commentary on the merits of the conciliation system. We agree with Dr. Pollen that where the conciliators are efficient and honest, the system does good. But then it is exceedingly difficult, nay almost impossible to get efficient and honest conciliators. "My judgment," says Dr. Pollen, "is still, to a certain degree, in a state of suspense, and I cannot feel sanguine as to the ultimate success of the experiment." The fair inference from this statement would be that the powers of the conciliators should not be extended, though the powers already conferred on them might be continued for some time longer.

In 1879 the question of compelling attendance before conciliators was fully considered by the Government, and the conclusion then arrived at was that it was not wise or safe to confer on the conciliators the powers which Mr. Gibbs' amendment proposed to give them. But now the Government of Bombay thinks that the want of authority to enforce the attendance of parties seriously impeded the work of conciliation; and the mover of the amendment argued that in this matter the Legislative Council ought to be guided by the opinion of the Local Government. His Excellency the Viceroy also took the same view and supported the amendment. Lord Ripon remarked:—"The Bill is of a local character, it would not have been brought forward in this Council if it had not been for special reasons, * * * ordinarily, it would have been brought in the Bombay Council, and there discussed with an amount of local knowledge of local circumstances which it is impossible to obtain here; but, as that course has not been taken, we ought to look specially to the opinions expressed by the two able gentlemen who represent Bombay here, and to bear in mind that those views are in concurrence with the recommendations of the Bombay Government, who, as Mr. Gibbs has shown, have very carefully considered the various proposals connected with the present Bill." But we should remember that Sir Richard Temple, the late Governor of Bombay, was emphatically of opinion 'that the ryot should not be compelled to attend before the conciliators.' Sir Richard wrote: "If the Conciliation Judge had the power of compelling the attendance of the ryot to answer the money-lender's claim, he, the judge, would have power which would be liable to abuse. Though he would not have the power of deciding, or

enforcing his decision if he formed one, still he would, by compelling attendance, be able, if so disposed, to put great pressure on the ryots to compromise the claim. Such power of applying pressure by an educated man of position upon an uneducated and humble man, or a claim preferred by a man generally of some education and wealth, is a power that ought not to be conferred upon honorary conciliation Judges in the present state of society in the Deccan. I state this with confidence, appealing to the knowledge of those who are acquainted with the Native gentry of the Deccan, from among whom the conciliation Judges would have to be selected." Such was the deliberate opinion of a man, who was thoroughly acquainted with the circumstances of the country. Sir Richard Temple's view of the matter was accepted by the Legislative Council in 1879, and Mr. Hope had then nothing to say against it. We are inclined to think that with regard to the system of conciliation greater weight is due to the opinion expressed by the late Government of Bombay than to that of the present Government. We go further and say that the mere fact that it is possible under the conciliation system to obtain what is equivalent to a registered bond with a decree attached by means of a collusive dispute, ought to be fatal to that system. The system of conciliation has not answered the expectations formed of it, and it may be discontinued without any detriment to the public interests.

THE BOMBAY REVENUE SYSTEM.

WHEN Mr. Hope's Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Bill was introduced into the Viceroy's Legislative Council at Simla in the middle of 1879, we were the first to point out that the proposed remedial measure did not go to the root of the matter, and that it was nothing better than a palliative. Even Mr. Hope, the author of the Bill was driven by the very force of facts to admit that the indebtedness of the Deccan peasantry must in part at least be ascribed to the revenue-system. He said:—"It seems likely that indebtedness arising mainly from other causes * * * has been aggravated by our rigid system. If any considerable increase at a revision were gradually worked up to in the course of two to five years, the ryot would have time to re-adjust his expenses and his means, instead of being taken by surprise and perhaps driven to the money-lender. Again, if the recovery of instalments were more coincident with the time when the ryot realizes on his produce, instead of falling sometimes too early and sometimes too late, and so the land-revenue were more in practice (what it is in law) a first charge on the latter, much temporary borrowing, fraud in crediting produce, and eventual Government process for recovery might be avoided. * * * * Moreover, though the system of taking revenue in kind, besides involving the injustice of assessment on the gross produce, instead of the nett, is so open to fraud when adopted on a large scale as to be impracticable, its object might be attained, in localities subject to drought by such suspension of the revenue-demand as to spread over three or four years according to the seasons, the aggregate amount to be recovered in that period. Finally, in times of famine, suspension of demand might be systematically granted as of late it has been by Sir Richard Temple, and even total remission, which is not inconsistent with the Bombay settlements." These remarks naturally created high hopes that the question of altering the Bombay revenue-system would receive immediate and favourable consideration at the hands of Government. It was, indeed, taken up by Sir Richard Temple; but the late Governor of Bombay, shortly afterwards announced that he did not see his way to making any changes in the revenue system of the Presidency.

The Deccan ryot is deeply indebted to Dr. Hunter for raising this important subject in the Viceroy's Legislative Council on the occasion of the recent debate on Mr. Hope's Bill for amending the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act of 1879. The learned Doctor justly observed at the outset that the evils under which the kumbi was labouring could not be removed by technical amendments, however skilfully contrived. This was exactly the position we have all along taken up in connection with this matter. Dr. Pollen, the special Judge entrusted with the administration of the Act, states that the ordinary Deccan ryot does not gain enough from the produce of his fields to pay the Government assessment, to support himself and his family throughout the year. The fundamental difficulty of bringing relief to the Deccan peasantry, therefore, is that the Government assessment does not leave enough food to the cultivator to support himself and his family throughout the year. This is the state of the Deccan ryot in ordinary season, what must be his misery, pertinently asks Dr. Hunter, in seasons of distress which afflict the Deccan every five years? One of the arguments frequently urged by the supporters of the Bombay revenue-system is, that although it is rigid, it is nevertheless based on a fair average of good years with bad. Dr. Hunter shows on the authority of Dr. Pollen that this system is utterly unsuited to the Deccan. He said: "A witness before the Deccan Ryots' Commission illustrated the case by a short Native story. A man, he said, once wished to ford a river, and set to work to ask the passers-by as to the depth of the stream at various spots in its course. He found from one, that it was ten feet deep at a certain place; from a second, three feet at another place, and so on. Having thus collected a large body of statistics, he struck an average, and finding the mean depth was only four feet, he boldly jumped into the river. But unfortunately, the channel happened to be seven feet deep at that particular spot, and he was drowned." This story speaks of the merits of the Bombay revenue-system which is based on a fair average of good years with bad more eloquently than volumes of declamation. It is all very well to say that the ryot should meet the deficit of bad years with the surplus of good years. But in point of fact the Deccan cultivator even in ordinary seasons lives from hand to mouth, and no margin is really left to him. Dr. Hunter also points out that the Bombay Revenue-officers have, during the past ten years, greatly enhanced the land-assessment in these afflicted districts. "The Government," we again quote the learned Doctor, "has sent forth one set of officers to absolve the cultivators from the loans which they have borrowed from private individuals; and, almost with the same breath, it launches forth another set of officers to collect a largely-enhanced rental from the cultivators. I do not wish to open the question of the Bombay revenue-system or its enhancements at present. The Deccan Riots' Commission Report is now several years old. It is absolutely necessary, in order to arrive at a just view of the case, to know how far the Government has adopted the measures recommended by the Commission, and what steps it has taken to carry them out. For, when we are asked to vote for certain technical amendments suggested by the Chief Judges' Report, we cannot shut our eyes to the painful substantive facts also disclosed in that Report. It may be that a perfectly good defence is forthcoming for the enhancements. But I do earnestly press on your Lordship's Government the necessity of a full and fair enquiry into this matter. I had hoped that a promise of such an enquiry would have been contained in the speech of the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. I shall rejoice if, before the debate closes, some member of your Lordship's Government will give such a pledge. For I feel convinced that this Bill, with its technical amendments *only skims the surface of the evil*; and that substantial relief will not reach the Deccan peasant under this or any other Act until an enquiry is granted not only into his obligations to his private creditors, but into the burdens imposed upon him by the State." Well said; but it is a great pity that no member of the Government gave such a pledge as had been asked for by Dr. Hunter. A full and impartial enquiry into the working of the Bombay revenue system in the Deccan, we are inclined to think, will show that the poverty of the Deccan peasantry is due not so much to the extravagance of the ryots as mainly due to over-assessment and rigid collection of the Government demand, irrespective of the character of the season. "It is not possible," emphatically observes Dr. Hunter, "to solve a great political question of this sort by shelving it I have lately had an opportunity of conversing with several of the Judges engaged in the administration of the Act, and with many other persons, both official and non-official in the Deccan. I feel certain that nothing short of a full and complete enquiry will satisfy either the necessities of the case or the just claims of the people." This must be the opinion of all sensible and fair-minded persons, who study the question in all its bearings.

The Hon'ble the Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore supported Dr. Hunter's proposal for a full enquiry into the condition of the Deccan peasantry, with special reference to the assessment and realisation of the Government revenue. Mr. Crosthwaite, one of the best and most experienced revenue-officers of the North-Western Provinces, conclusively showed that there were certain faults in the revenue-system of Bombay, which required amendment and correction. He pointed out that the average nett produce of bad land in the Deccan was not more than 14 annas, or 1 rupee, and of good lands about 24 annas. The average holding of a Deccan ryot is about 20 acres, and as the Government assessment was about half the nett produce, the surplus left to the average cultivator in an ordinary year was not more than Rs. 15 or so. Although it may be true that the revenue is light, still it is plain, to use Mr. Crosthwaite's words, "that, owing to the poverty of the soil and the smallness of the holdings, the margin left to come and go on, to meet the fluctuations of price and production, is very small." Mr. Crosthwaite then tells us what has been done since 1879 by the Government of Bombay to amend and alter the revenue-system. He observes:—"He could not, however, find any general order passed since 1879 correcting the faults with which his Hon'ble friend Mr. Hope had charged the Bombay revenue-system. The prevalent tone of these orders was certainly against remissions or suspensions of revenue; and the latest order, which was dated March 1878, was to the effect that no remission of revenue should be made without the sanction of Government. He could find no orders that put the matter on a sound and defined basis by ascertaining the tracts of country subject to great seasonal changes, and by giving Commissioners or Collectors power to suspend collections of revenue when harvests failed, and to deal promptly when occasions required. He was aware that, in particular districts, remissions and suspensions of revenue had been made; but that was not sufficient. In order substantially to improve the ryot's credit, the matter must be put on a sound basis and definite rules laid down by measures similar to those lately promulgated by His Excellency's Government for the benefit of Northern India. * * * Speaking from his own experience as a Revenue-Officer, he did not believe that, without a proper revenue-system—by which he meant a system that would ensure discretion and moderation not only in the assessment but in the collection of the revenue,—the conditions, being so bad as they had been described to be, could be materially improved. He believed that, when widespread indebtedness of this sort was found among the agricultural classes of a large tract of country, a prudent Government would look to its revenue-system to see if it was well-suited to the conditions of the country. As regarded the present case, he had the very best authority, namely, that of his Hon'ble friend Mr. Hope, for attributing some parts of the indebtedness of the ryots to defects in the revenue system. He wished to speak in terms of the greatest respect of the Bombay Survey and Revenue Department, and of the Revenue-Officers and of the many great men who had served in that Presidency; but he did wish to see this question dealt with in a more liberal spirit than that in which it had hitherto been met." Unless Lord Ripon should take up the subject in right earnest, we have little hope that the question of amending the Bombay revenue-system will be dealt with in a proper spirit. The very fact that His Lordship allowed such a protracted debate on the revenue-system of Bombay to take place in the Legislative Council in connection with Mr. Hope's Bill to amend the original Act of

1879, leads us to hope that this most interesting and instructive debate will not go for nothing. The President, by the exercise of the powers of the chair, might have put a stop to the discussion raised by Dr. Hunter; but instead of doing so, His Excellency allowed it to continue and listened to it with great attention and interest. His Excellency, as might have been expected, reserved entirely his own opinion on the revenue-system of Bombay. Lord Ripon, however, said enough to indicate that the question will engage his careful consideration. "My own views on the question of suspension and remission of revenue," observed His Lordship, "are embodied in the recent Resolution of the Government of India on that subject; and as regards the question of enhancement, I cordially concur with the views expressed by the Secretary of State, that, even when an enhancement may be reasonable in itself, it is not desirable that, if it is heavy in amount, it should be made at once, but that it should be introduced gradually, so as not suddeuly to raise very largely the payments which the ryots have previously been accustomed to make." This is certainly calculated to raise high hopes in the minds of the Deccan cultivators.

WHY SHOULD INDIA PAY FOR THE CONQUEST OF EGYPT?

THIS is the title of a very able and interesting paper read by Mr. H. M. Hyndman before the East Indian Association. Mr. Hyndman as the reader is aware is a sincere friend of India, and his knowledge of Indian economy is commensurate with his earnestness. He first laments English apathy to Indian affairs. He says: "There is just now, unfortunately, even more than the usual apathy with relation to Indian business. That indifference which is felt in all home and foreign concerns affects, of course, even more seriously the affairs of India. Differing as we may, on many points in relation to the administration of our great dependency, we are at least agreed on this: that for wealthy England to throw the cost of her imperial war against Egypt on to the shoulders of the miserably poor ryots of India would be an act of meanness that could not fail to degrade our country in the eyes of the whole civilized world." Again: "Who has not marvelled at the apathy of the majority of members with respect to all Indian business? I assure you, Sir, that sometimes when on a broiling day in the middle of August I have strolled down to that least democratic of all so-called popular assemblies, the House of Commons, and have seen a Secretary of State for India rise with an air of infinite boredom to address some two-score worn-out legislators, white, weary, and woebegone, I have thought of the late Lord Westbury's scornful ejaculation." This is too true, and there as Mr. Hyndman says lies the root of the whole mischief. And, as the lecturer observes, "much of the mischief is done because the breeches' pocket keeps the mind in safe custody. Greed for gain eats out the moral sense, and ignorance is too convenient to disturb itself. The upper and middle classes of England drag from India every year from 20,000,000*l.* to 30,000,000*l.* sterling, without any commercial return. Take it at that, then. In the shape of interest, profit, pensions, and home charges, the governing classes draw from India each year, whether famine is raging or not, more than the entire nett land revenue of the whole of India." Mr. Hyndman asks: "What do you say to that? This represents—I am speaking according to official statements—the value of the food of more than 10,000,000 human beings for a whole year. Why, increasing impoverishment is certain so long as this goes on. No man can stay it. If England sent from her shores each year 80,000,000*l.* or more; if she, too, were cumbered up with foreigners in every office of emolument and consideration; if we were forced to pay for the invasion of Tunis or the expedition to Mexico by a French Assembly, why, I take it we should not need to look further for the cause, when starvation and famine, disease and pestilence came upon our households and decimated our population." It is here where the shoe pinches. But it is useless to cry. Who listens to the appeals of the poor millions of India? They may as well address the dead wall. Our misfortune is that our English masters as a body know not India, and Her Majesty's Government, whenever there is a financial issue between England and India, looks first to the pockets of English tax-payers.

Mr. Hyndman quotes the protests of the leaders of the Liberal party when in the Opposition against the saddling of India with the cost of the Affghan war, and thus remarks:

I confess, Sir, there is one whom it hurts me to find in this boatload of political hypocrites. For many years past Mr. Henry Fawcett has stood forward as the member for India. If, as a typical middle-class economist, he has refused to look beyond the mere superficial aspects of the impoverishment of India, it is even the more to his honour that he never ceased to proclaim that India is poor, and to protest, indifferent to friend or foe, against the injustice which both parties have combined to inflict upon her. Office, sad to say, has deprived India of her sole effective parliamentary champion. I cannot believe that Mr. Fawcett too has taken the shilling to serve in the ranks of the enemies of India, his speech at Hackney forbids me to think that, yet he sat silent and unashamed in his seat of Postmaster-General when Lord Hartington, as Chief Secretary, proposed that the cost of the Indian troops should be defrayed by the Indian ryots. Surely if ever India stood in need of Mr. Henry Fawcett's services she wanted them that day.

We say *ditto*, but we cannot believe that Mr. Fawcett will be a party to this spoliation of the Indian revenue. At any rate the Government of India have made a bold and manful stand against it, and when they have done so, surely Mr. Fawcett will not fail to do his duty. Lord Ripon and Major Baring are as much attached to their party as Mr. Fawcett, and when they have subordinated party allegiance to India's claim to justice, we cannot conceive that the Member for India will do otherwise. Mr. Hyndman writes:

"It is said, that we went to war to secure the Suez Canal, and that is to some a sufficient reason for the whole bad business. Yet who threatened the Suez Canal? Not Arabi, that is certain. With every temptation to block it he refrained from touching it. Not the Egyptians, for they are interested in its maintenance as a highway. Men seem to forget that the overland route which preceded the Suez Canal was carried on for years without any difficulty at periods when Egypt was in the gravest trouble and confusion. No, no! though we have far more interest in the Suez Canal than all other nations on the earth put together, no man who has read the Blue Books can hold that we went to war on that account. The Suez Canal could have been secured without war; or if that is a debateable point let us leave it. Grant, for the sake of argument, that we did attack Egypt to protect the Suez Canal. Still why should India pay for our conquest? We, not India, get the profits of the Indian trade to the tune of 30,000,000*l.* a year, as I have said, without any commercial return to the Natives. It is very well for us to chant the blessings of our rule in chorus, but if we withdraw our army where would our rule be? The Suez Canal after all is but one of our routes to send armies to maintain our supremacy. There is more in it than this. If others besides ourselves should pay for the protection of the Suez Canal, then beyond all question our wealthy, loyal, prosperous, and increasing colonies in Australia and New Zealand should come largely to our aid. An ever-increasing portion of their most important trade passes through the Canal; their chief postal route lie, and for all time will lie that way. Why does not the Liberal Government call upon them to pay some portion, at least, of the cost of the advantages gained for them and us by our conquest of Egypt? If we are in the right and the Canal is secure, surely our wealthy countrymen beyond the sea would gladly help their brethren at home with a contribution. We know very well they would not; because they were not consulted, if for no other reason. Their representative Assemblies would very closely scrutinize the whole job before they voted a shilling. India, too, was not consulted, yet India may have to pay. In this war, as in many others, the unrepresented are, like the absent, always in the wrong. I content then, first, that the Suez Canal was not the real reason why we want to war with Arabi; and secondly, that if it were India ought no more to be called upon to pay for our war of aggression than our Australian colonies, who have never been applied to at all."

No Indian could have more forcibly stated his country's case than Mr. Hyndman has done, and we cannot adequately express our gratitude to him. But this is not the first time that England has waged war with Egypt. Early in this century an Indian Expedition was landed in Egypt to co-operate with the forces of Sir Ralph Abercromby against the armies of France. That too was an imperial business, but England then paid every farthing of the cost. Why should it be different now? Surely not because India is now under the direct rule of the Crown.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

THE Calcutta Corporation had a field-day on Monday last. The agitation set on foot in the columns of the *Englishman* has borne fruit. For nearly four hours the Commissioners talked, but they talked reason and sense. It was a drawn battle between the Commissioners and the executive. In point of number the battle was certainly unequal, for all the Commissioners who spoke with the exception of one were arrayed on one side, and the Chairman on the other. But the Chairman was a host in himself, he spoke well, ably, forcibly, and earnestly, but we can not say quite logically. He was certainly fair and spirited, but we must candidly confess that he mistook his position and responsibilities, when though not openly resisting enquiry he directed his arguments against it. He said: "I can say no more than that I am perfectly certain that in this instance you have by this outcry raised outside been put under the impression that the drainage system is neglected, that system which is pointed to, both for its system and working, with pride. It is our one strong point, whatever weak points we may have. Do you suppose if Mr. Clark were here, he would not be on our side? Would he be the only scientific man? There is Mr. Bradford Leslie; Mr. Buckley, Dr. Coates, Dr. Payne—no friend of the Municipality—and there is Dr. Cunningham, and all of these will give their opinion on our side. They will tell you that our sewer system is in perfect order. You do not call them, but you bring in a string of dusty old books, and that is the treatment the Municipality and the Health Officer of this Municipality have been subjected to. These gentlemen, who deserve your best thanks for preserving your drainage system in perfect condition so that everyone who comes and examines it goes away and says it is as near perfect as anything you can find on this earth—these gentlemen you are going to subject to the ignominy of an inquiry. Truly it is hard for officers of the Municipality not to be discouraged under such circumstances." But what harm can there be in an enquiry? Our executive may be first-rate men, may be doing their work in first class style, and may be deserving of the highest praise, but when complaints are so loud and widespread that the air is tainted, that the sewers are not properly cleansed, that the street conservancy is not sufficiently looked after, and that there is not sufficient supervision, we cannot understand why the Chairman should oppose enquiry by appealing to the high character of the officers concerned. It is not a question of reputation but of facts, and if a proper enquiry should establish the position of the Chairman, nothing would give us greater satisfaction. We should be the last persons to condemn the executive unheard, but we cannot join Mr. Harrison to pooh-pooh a public outcry. It is here where we say he is mistaken. There was no necessity for him to go to the extreme as he did in the peroration of his speech. He said: "I know that while systems live men fall, and I know full well that the final success of the Municipality may be built upon my ruin, but I do not for a moment think that I am indispensable to this Municipality. If the Municipality commits an injustice at one time, it will not commit that injustice afterwards, and, therefore, I say if ever I find I have lost the confidence of the Government, or the confidence of the Commissioners, that has not been such a bed of roses for me that I should be sorry to make way for another." We are sorry to say again that Mr. Harrison is mistaken. There is no personal feeling in the matter. There is no desire as far we can see to unseat the Chairman or oust any other officer. On the contrary there is every desire that the Committee

should work with the aid and co-operation of the Chairman, whose valuable services are cordially acknowledged on all hands. All that is wanted is a fair and full enquiry, and if the evils complained of be established by such an enquiry, apply the proper remedies. We cannot but regret that the Chairman should have taken such an extremely personal view of the question. He added that this movement is a covert attack upon the Native Commissioners. This may be true, but if the Native Commissioners have not done their duty, by all means arraign them at the bar of public opinion, but do not stifle enquiry and suppress the truth because it may affect this man or that, this body or that.

The real question at issue is not so much of smells, flushing of drains, neglect of this work or that, but the general sanitary state of the town. This is not a new question, though it has now been emphasised because the shrieking portion of the community has now taken it up. The much-abused Native Commissioners thus wrote on this subject in their annual report for 1877:

"The report of the Health-Officer gives in detail the history of the sanitary condition of the town during the past year. The Commissioners are sorry to notice that the death-rate of 1877 was very high, being higher than that of previous ten years, except 1875, when it rose to 32·7 per mile. From 1871, when the water works came into full operation, there was a fall in the rate of mortality to the end of 1873, when it suddenly rose from 23·9 in 1871 to 26·8 in 1874, to 32·7 in 1875, to 30·1 in 1876, and to 31·9 in 1877. It is remarkable that this rise in the death-rate has taken place in years during which the town has made marked progress in sanitation. The drainage works have greatly advanced; the first and second class sewers have all been completed, and a good portion of the third class or pipe sewers constructed; the completed drainage extends over 99·58 miles, leaving 75·77 miles to construct. Many old ditches which were running cesspools have been filled up, and in some cases sewer roads have been constructed over them, which has not only removed the old nuisance, but greatly impoved ventilation in the localities concerned. Numerous foul tanks have been de-watered and filled up. Effective arrangements have been made for the removal of night-soil from private houses under the direct supervision of the Municipality. For the greater part of the last year, a special staff of sweepers was employed under the direct control of the Health Officer for the cleansing of *bustee* grounds. Three main lungs have been added to the town by the construction of Canning Street, Beadon Street and Grey Street. The water works have been in full operation, and although many of the bye-lanes still remain unpiped, pure water is undoubtedly within reach of all classes of the population. But notwithstanding all these important sanitary improvements, the death-rate of the town during the last three years has been greater than during the preceding eight years. In drawing attention to this fact the Commissioners do not by any means wish to under-rate the value of sanitary improvement; far from it; but the remark is forced from them that, notwithstanding a capital outlay of a crore and a half which constitutes the debt of the town, and an annual expenditure of lacs of rupees from the current revenue upon sanitary improvements, there has been a rise in the rate of mortality in later years.

The statement of deaths from the most prevalent diseases from 1867 to 1877 shows an enormous increase in mortality from cholera and fever. With regard to the causation of cholera, the Health Officer, as is well known, holds that there is an intimate connection between foul water and cholera; "the evidence," he remarks in his last annual report, "which followed was uniform both in demonstrating the connection and establishing causation by the results of practice, and has now so greatly grown by multiplied examples that inference worthy to be regarded as little less than an inductive truth." Elsewhere Dr. Payne observes:—"If causation (of cholera) though water be still a theory, it is at least a good working theory, and the work which it demands is easy and cheap." The Commissioners must bow to the professional opinion of their sanitary adviser on a purely scientific question of this kind; but they cannot abstain from observing that there is a marked disparity between the opinion of the Health Officer and that of other competent authorities on this subject.

Deaths from fever have been increasing from 1867. Thus, the deaths from fever were 3,845 in 1867, 3,681 in 1868, 3,833 in 1869, 3,577 in 1870, 4,242 in 1871, 4,895 in 1872, 4,632 in 1873, 4,461 in 1874, 5,328 in 1875, 4,361 in 1876 and 5,131 in 1877. The Commissioners have not seen any satisfactory explanation of this steady and enormous increase in fever mortality."

The extract is long but its practical value at the present moment cannot be over-rated. The the Native Commissioners, who wrote the above, were then pooh-poohed. Have matters since improved? We say no. If they had materially improved, there would not have been that active and earnest agitation which we witness. The Government of the day rebuked the Commissioners for raising the issue in that emphatic manner. They attributed it to a personal quarrel of the Commissioners with the Health-Officer, and none so lustily, hastily, and unjustly condemned the Commissioners as the *Englishman* did at that time. But now the table is turned. The *Englishman* is now the foremost in condemning the sanitary state of the town. We hope the present agitation will not prove a mere passing cry, but will lead to some practical and enduring results.

THE CHITTAGONG CASE.

WILL Chittagong scandals never cease? Will high-handed proceedings always continue to be the order of the day at Chittagong? Will the liberty of the subject never be safe there? We lately copied a letter from the columns of the *Statesman* giving the particulars of a scandalous case of magisterial oppression at Chittagong. This case lately came before a bench of the High Court consisting of Justices Field and Tottenham. We prefer to give the reader an idea of the real character of the case in the judicial language of the High Court rather than in our own words. The case was one under the Court of Wards Act. A wealthy zemindar of the Chittagong district died on the 15th October last, leaving a widow aged 25 years and a son six years old. The Collector directed Koylas Chunder Gupta, a manager in the employment of the Court of Wards, to take charge of the property of the deceased Fazlali Khan. Mr. Justice Field says, "the only evidence upon the records that Koylas Chunder Gupta was acting under the authority of the Collector is his own statement, in which he says: "I received orders from the Collector to take charge." He subsequently says that these orders were partly oral, and partly in writing; but no written orders that might have been made has been produced. The Collector excused himself from producing them on the ground that they were State documents, an objection which in a case of this kind, and as applied to these documents is apparently unsupported." The Collector must have a strange notion of public documents when he considered the records of the Court of Wards office as "State documents." Perhaps he is not singular in this notion, as many a Collector refuse to give to the public documents of this nature under the same sort of hallucination. Mr. Justice Field then goes on:

"Now, although the Court of Wards Act gives the Collector jurisdiction to take such steps and make such orders for the safety and preservation of the movable property and so forth, there is nothing in the Act which to our mind justifies proceedings such as those which took place on the present occasion. We think that if the Court of Wards officials had been deputed by the Collector to take charge of the movable property because such a course was necessary for its safety and preservation, the Collector should have given to those persons a written order defining exactly their duty, and giving them authority to perform that duty. To allow a subordinate native officer, accompanied with other subordinates, to invade the premises of a respectable zemindar immediately after the occurrence of domestic bereavement is, to our mind, a course which could have been only justified on the ground that the Collector had the strongest reason to believe that this form was necessary for the safety and preservation of the movable property. Now so far as regards the record before us, there is nothing to show that the safety of the movable property was in any way threatened or that it was necessary to send a number of officials with definite instructions to enter the premises of the deceased Fazlali Khan.

Could any thing be more high-handed than this? And yet this is not an isolated case. The reader doubtless recollects the case of Nyantara, another ward of the Court of Wards, which occurred at the time of the Fenwa scandals. Mr. Justice Field continues:

The widow, who, it is to be observed, is her husband's heiress to a two-anna share in the property, was, as might naturally be expected, disconcerted and troubled by the proceedings of the officials who had invaded her premises, and she summoned to her assistance, and to give her advice, Tarun Singh Hazaree, a neighbouring zemindar, the petitioner in this case. On the 26th October, Koylash Chunder left Dohazaree for the purpose of proceeding to Chittagong, and he left the property, as he termed it, in charge of Chandra Mohun and some of the peons. On the 1st November Tarun Singh Hazaree, accompanied by a pleader, Chunder Mohun Dutt, came to the residence of Ashraf Bibee, the widow, at Dohazaree, and was about to have communication and conversation with her. Thereupon Chandra Mohun, the mohurir in charge, interfered, commanded their authority for coming there, and threatened them with the displeasure of the Collector if they proceeded to have communication or conversation with the widow. Now this conduct on the part of Chandra Mohun is apparently without justification. Whatever steps might have been necessary for the safety and preservation of the movable property of the deceased, it certainly could not have been necessary that the widow should be precluded from intercourse with her friends and consultation with her legal adviser; and the conduct of Chandra Mohun can only be characterised as an instance of that tyrannical disregard of law which distinguishes the native subordinate officials of this country when they find themselves in a position of real or supposed authority.

The native subordinate was certainly guilty of gross misconduct, but would he have had the courage to commit the illegalities and oppressions, if he had not been backed by the Collector.? We do not defend the "subordinate native officials," but we do say that if they are tyrannical, it is because either they are led on or backed by their official superiors. It is the old story—like master like man.

Mr. Justice Field next remarks:

"Tarun Singh Hazaree being naturally irritated at the conduct of a subordinate clerk, an altercation ensued, and in the course of that language is alleged to have been used by Tarun Singh Hazaree which forms the subject of the present case. To that language I shall presently refer in detail. Chandra Mohun made a report of what took place on this occasion, which he forwarded to his superior officer who laid it before the Collector. The Collector, Mr. Manson, made an order that his representation be forwarded to the Magistrate for proper orders. In other words, Mr. Manson, as Collector forwarded this representation to Mr. Manson, who, as Magistrate, made the following order:—

"The case is taken up under sections 448, Indian Penal Code, 506, Indian Penal Code, any other sections which may be applicable against Tarun Singh Hazaree and Purno Chunder Dutt. Made over to Mr. Maguire, Joint-Magistrate, for disposal. If any petitions of complaint, &c., relating to this matter are presented, they must all go to the Joint-Magistrate for disposal."

In making this order, we presume that Mr. Manson was acting under the provisions of section 142 I. P. C. which was then in force. That section authorizes the Magistrate of a district to take cognisance of any offence which he suspects has been committed. No doubt, according to the strict letter of the law Mr. Manson may have had, under this section, jurisdiction to do what he did, but having regard to the fact that the information which Mr. Manson as Magistrate received, was received from Mr. Manson as Collector, we think he would have exercised a more proper discretion if he had transferred the whole matter *res integra* to the board of another Magistrate."

Here is another example of the mischief arising from the union of magisterial and fiscal functions in the hands of the same officer. It shews that the liberty of the subject cannot be safe till the Magistrate be divested of Police power. The Magistrate was the prime mover in the case under notice, and his subordinates evidently played according to the tune of the piper. We have neither time nor space to go into details in this issue, but we cannot conclude without asking whether this case should end here. Will the Government take no notice of it? And if the Government does take notice of it, will it not make a searching enquiry as to why cases of this kind are of such frequent occurrence in Chittagong? Is there any thing peculiar in the air of Chittagong? Is it the fault of the people of Chittagong alone, as the local officers we believe allege, or is the screw loose somewhere

in the officialdom of that district? It is a shame that cases of this kind should occur year after year, and the Government should sit with folded hands and apply no remedy. From the time of Sir Richard Temple the Chittagong scandals are multiplying; the High Court whenever there has been an opportunity has stepped in to enforce justice and law, and yet law and justice are still set at naught as ever. It is time that the Government should appoint a Commission of Enquiry into the condition and administration of Chittagong. There ought to be a root and branch reform, otherwise the liberty of the subject cannot be safe.

EDUCATION IN BRITISH BURMA.

WHILE British Burma is making rapid strides in material advancement she is still lamentably behind the other provinces in intellectual and moral progress. The backward state of education in his satrapy has we are glad to say attracted the attention of Mr. Bernard, the present Chief Commissioner at Rangoon. He has established an Educational Syndicate under the presidency of Mr. Jardine, the Judicial Commissioner. The President of the new Educational Syndicate has recorded a memorandum on the subject of the encouragement of education. He writes:—"There are several reasons for doing our utmost to push on higher education. Unless some Burmans and Karens acquire general information and some literary style, the time of good vernacular literature must be postponed. But that statement means that the common people are not to have the resource of reading for their idle hours, the most efficient counteractive of gambling and drinking habits. I lay great stress on this remedy because it has not occurred to the local officials and loogyees, who wish to make the present rigorous laws more stringent than ever, to notice the connection between idleness and vice, a matter very strongly insisted upon in Foster's essay on popular ignorance, written in 1819, before Lord Brougham and his friends had begun the work of providing cheap literature for the English people. As for the Karens, it is difficult to see how they can be protected against oppression until they have magistrates and advocates of their own race to stand up for them. Recent cases have shown their great need of protection against cleve money-lenders. The Buddhist law will never be properly understood until we have natives to interpret the Burmese and Pali, and of course there cannot be many native medical practitioners until higher education has become more common." The importance of encouraging the spread of higher education in British Burma cannot be over-estimated. It will scarcely be believed but nevertheless it is true that as yet only one boy in that Province has passed the First Arts Examination of the University, and not a single one has graduated. The number of students who have matriculated is also very small. This state of things cannot be too deeply deplored. Well has Mr. Justice Muthuswamy, Iyer said in his evidence before the Education Commission that our national progress depends on the spread of high English education among our countrymen. Mr. Jardine is perfectly right in thinking that a good vernacular literature cannot be created without pushing on higher education. Educated natives in this Province have done much in improving and extending vernacular literature—a fact which is a conclusive answer to those who tell us that our English-knowing countrymen despise their vernaculars. The policy which the promoters of the oriental movement in the Punjab has adopted for creating a good vernacular literature is a thoroughly mistaken one. The best means for extending and improving vernacular literature is not to orientalize education, but to push on high education to the utmost practicable extent. We are very glad that Mr. Jardine has laid so much stress on this important point. There is, however, another weighty consideration which he has not urged. The subordinate Government Services cannot be improved without an adequate supply of well-educated Natives to fill them.

The returns of the last year, we regret to notice, show a decrease of 173 in the number of scholars at high and middle schools. Thus, instead of making any progress, higher education is actually retrograding in British Burma. This state of things cannot be allowed to continue. Mr. Jardine says: "There are hardly any picture books in the Burmese language, and not one with coloured picture. Hardly anything has been done to provide the people with good readable books not of an educational or religious kind. I believe not a single Burman has written a law-book or even a law-pamphlet during this century. No one has attempted to explain the various reading of the Dhammathats, and the result is that the highest judges here have, after long argument and painful inquiry, to decide for the first time most simple questions of Buddhist law. Science and medicine are equally uncared for. There is no medical and physical society here at which medical men, official or otherwise European and Native, might make individual learning and research available to all. In most of these cases Burma compares unfavourably with India. But in India it is no uncommon thing for the very highest officials to take a great part in the higher education: Judges of the High Court, Advocates-General, Surgeons-General and men of position often serve as Deans of Faculties or as Syndics. There is more educational tradition in India than in Burma: in India the names of such men as Monutstuart Elphinstone, Thomason, Lord Dalhousie, Sir Bartle Frere, and Lord Lawrence, are well-known as powerful supporters of education, but apparently they are hardly known in this connection to the people of Burma." There can be no doubt that direct encouragement on the part of high European officials will stimulate the progress of English education in British Burma. Such encouragement achieved wonders in the early days of English education in this Province; and it cannot fail to accomplish similar results in British Burma. A demand for high English education has yet to be created in the latter Province, and this cannot be done without the active encouragement on the part of Government and its dignitaries. Mr. Hordern, the Director of Public Instruction at Rangoon, thinks it strange that wealthy Native gentlemen do not found endowments and prizes for educational purposes. But to Mr. Jardine this does *not* seem strange. He observes:—"There is no aristocracy except an official body; in this respect Burma differs from all the provinces of India. There is no hereditary rank or learning, and the people have none but official leaders. The native officials are always ready and willing to join in good work, but they wait to be led by the European officials in India. In India the educational movement in its earlier stages was actively promoted by the English officials of the highest rank, and it seems to me that there is a need of the same assistance here. * * * * I know quite well that the officers in the Commission do carefully such educational business as they have to do under orders of the Government, and that a good many of them help the local schools with sympathy, advice and money. But while I make these admissions I must add that the help thus given to higher education seems, on the whole, little and cold. There is official approbation of success when gained at a Government school. There is a good deal of esteem expressed in terms, in some times warm, some times tepid, of the educational work done by the missionaries. But there has been, so far as I know, no determined or joint effort to promote higher education: it seldom occurs to the wealthier Europeans to give money with that aim, and therefore I do not think it strange at all that the wealthy natives do so little." Yes, in carrying on all good work in this Empire the Englishman must set an example to the Native. Mr. Jardine asks the Director to enquire why so many Burmese gentlemen subscribe liberally to the Rangoon Race Fund. There can be no doubt that these subscriptions can be diverted to the cause of promoting education if high European officials judiciously exercise their influence over Native gentlemen. The example and active encouragement of the European dignitaries will surely induce many generous Burmese gentlemen to bestow their wealth in prizes for learning as a means of getting religious merit. We earnestly hope Mr. Bernard will take into early consideration the state of things described in Mr. Jardine's memorandum. The Educational Syndicate has done its part, and it now remains for the Local Administration to provide suitable remedies.

AFFAIRS AT BOMBAY.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Bombay, 3rd January, 1883.

NO SINGLE event during the past week has interested the public in this Presidency so much as the debate in the Viceregal Legislative Council on the Dekkan Relief Act Amendment Bill and the important issues raised in connection therewith in respect of the merits of the Bombay Revenue system generally. The Viceroy is to be congratulated on having put no restrictions on the debate but allowed it to go on in the interest of free discussion, after the circulation to the members of the Council of Mr. Lee-Warner's Note on the Bombay Land system. I speak the sentiments of the thinking public in this Presidency when I say that Dr. Hunter has laid us under a deep debt of gratitude for having opened the debate. A more opportune time could scarcely have been chosen. For years past the people of this Presidency have sought in vain to bring on a discussion on the subject, because the Dekkan Relief Act has been from the first considered and disposed of in the Supreme Legislative Council. The Hon'ble Mr. Hope himself bears witness to the fact that in 1879, when the Dekkan Bill was before the Viceroy's Council, no question was more pertinently and more imploringly pressed upon his attention from this Presidency, in private and in public, than that bearing on the rigidity of the Bombay revenue system. On the second occasion also when the Dekkan Act came on for amendment the matter was brought to the notice of Mr. Hope with, however, no practical good resulting therefrom. In 1879, even the Hon'ble Mr. Hope at the conclusion of his speech remarked that 'if, I venture to add, the revenue system can be so tried and adjusted as not to drive the ryot to the soukar, even temporarily, in order to meet it, then I believe all trouble will be soon and safely tided over.' This time, the matter appears to have been urged on the attention of Government with all the earnestness, all the cogent reasoning and all the ability which deep conviction as to the defects of the system is capable of producing. As Dr. Hunter truly remarked the Deccan peasantry have been like grains between the nether and upper mill-stones, subjected to the influence of two opposing forces. On the one hand every facility has been afforded to clear themselves from the debts of the sowcars. On the other hand, enhancements of revenue, resulting from the revised settlements of land, have resulted in plunging him deeper and deeper into the mire of debt. The Deccan Bill has hitherto failed to grapple with the real economic condition of the ryots. It has tried to absolve them from the debts of the private money-lender, but it has as yet done nothing to afford them any tangible relief from the increased burdens imposed by the State. It seems to me that the inquiry demanded by Dr. Hunter into the condition of the peasantry is fully justified by what we see around, by what the Special Judge, charged with the operation of affording relief to the Deccan peasantry, says. As supplementary to that inquiry I would urge one thing, and that is that I would request His Excellency the Viceroy, the Hon'ble Mr. Hope, and all others in the Supreme Council interested in the land problem of this Presidency, to direct the Bombay Government to publish the voluminous correspondence which, I understand, has passed between the Secretary of State and the Bombay Government on the subject. It seems to me that the publication of this correspondence will shed a flood of light on most of the controversial points touching the condition of the Deccan peasantry. It will explain matters which have been a mystery to the people so long. For instance, we cannot understand why the wise orders of Sir Philip Wodehouse's Government, limiting future enhancements of revenue and revised settlement operations, were countermanded, in spite of the fact that the result of the Commission of Enquiry into the condition of the Deccan ryots served only to emphasise the wisdom of Sir Philip Wodehouse. I am delighted to find that the correspondent of the *Times* has reported the whole of Dr. Hunter's speech, and that on the strength of that report, the leading journal in the British Empire suggests that Dr. Hunter's indictment should be promptly met. I trust English public opinion will be duly educated on the subject by some Hon'ble Member from his place in Parliament moving the House for a full and unreserved publication in the form of Blue-Book of all papers and correspondence bearing on the subject of the condition of the Deccan peasantry, as I feel sure that that correspondence will enable the public to judge how imperatively necessary it is to have a Commission of Enquiry to go thoroughly into the question. It is amusing to see a daily

contemporary here writing as if he had yet to learn the A B. C. of the land question. He says: "We are very much mistaken if the local Government would oppose any measure, which would give them the power to grant remissions on the occurrence of such calamities (famines)." But as a matter of fact the Government of Sir Richard Temple did set its face against and granting any remissions of revenue urgently called for in view of three years' successive famines in the Deccan, although it was repeatedly pointed out to him that such remissions were in perfect accordance with the system of land revenue administration in this Presidency. But no. Sir Richard would not listen to the voice of reason. He refused to grant remissions even in cases which were admittedly hard. The result was that the ryots in some of the Deccan districts had to leave British territory and seek protection in the neighbouring Nizam's dominions. And ultimately, the Bombay Government were driven to write off with the sanction of the Indian Secretary of State sums from 8 to 10 lakhs of rupees. It is almost certain that if remissions had been granted the loss attendant thereon would not have been so heavy as the actual writing-off of arrears as irrecoverable has entailed; but it was the misfortune of this Presidency to be under a Governor whose great point was how best to please his superiors, and how vehemently to crush all expression of independent opinion in his subordinates. The history of Sir Richard Temple's administration of the Bombay Presidency has yet to be impartially written. It will show, if anything, how incapable Sir Richard was to be a ruler of men, though he would ride hundreds of miles in a day and trumpet the feat in the columns of the newspapers.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy has given another proof of his liberality by inviting the Central Committee of Landholders of Bengal and Behar recently appointed by the British Indian Association to nominate a fitting representative of the landholders for His Excellency's Legislative Council in succession to the Hon'ble the Maharaja Sir Jotindramohun Tagore, K. C. S. I., in view of the coming Bengal Rent Bill. Accordingly the Committee have submitted a nomination, which His Excellency has been pleased to accept. His Excellency has also been pleased to offer a seat to the Maharaja of Durbangha as a representative of the landholders of Behar.

WE ARE glad to learn that the charitable wife of the Hon'ble Durga Churn Law has placed in the hands of the Native Committee of the District Charitable Society 600 *chudders* for distribution among the pauper pensioners on their list.

WE HEAR that Mr. Elliot, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, is not willing to go to British Burma, Mr. Charles Crosthwaite, late Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces, and at present an Additional Member of the Governor General's Legislative Council will accordingly be appointed to act for Mr. Bernard. Mr. Crosthwaite's career in the LegislativeCouncil has been most creditable; he has shewn considerable knowledge and ability, great breadth of view, much moderation and thorough sympathy with the people. British Burma may well be congratulated upon on this selection.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks the receipt of a sketch of the Tagore Family by Mr. Furrell, editor of the *Englishman*. It is a pretty little volume, neatly printed and nicely got up. The contents are quite in keeping with its external appearance. Mr. Furrell gives in a readable style the history of the Tagore Family from the commencement. Few native families of Bengal can boast of such conspicuous characters for ability, knowledge, public spirit and princely benefactions as the Tagore Family, and Mr. Furrell has given biographical accounts of most of them. This is the first time the sketches are given in a connected form, and no one can read them without being deeply impressed with the loyalty, the public virtues and public services of the Tagores of Calcutta, which have been repeatedly acknowledged by Government and the public at large. May their shadows never grow less!

WE DEEM it due to Mr. A. P. Howell, from whose report on the Central Provinces Tenancy Bill we gave extracts in our last issue, to mention that his objections did not apply to the Amended Bill. He wrote so strongly against the original Bill, but he is generally at one with Mr. Crosthwaite as regards the provisions of the Amended Bill.

WE GIVE below a corrected statement of the Entrance Examination results of the Calcutta Schools:

Names of Schools.	1st Divn.	2nd Divn.	3rd Divn.	Total.
Hindu School	15	8	4	27
Hare School	8	17	13	38
Metropolitan Institution ...	10	5	7	22
Do. Shampoker Branch ...	2	5	10	17
Sanskrit College School ...	2	3	2	7
Albert Collegiate „ ...	1	4	10	15
City Collegiate „ ...	0	13	7	20
Presidency „ ...	2	3	7	12
Oriental Seminary	4	3	4	11
General Assembly's Institution ...	0	9	9	18
Free Church Institution ...	1	6	7	14
Training Academy	0	0	2	2
St. Xavier's College	2	8	4	14
Doveton „	2	7	4	13
Seal's Free „	0	1	2	3
Calcutta Madrassa	1	4	2	7
L. M. S. Institution, Bhowanipore	3	8	16	27
S. Suburban School, Kalighat ...	1	3	6	10

The Hindu School as usual stands first in order of merit. The Metropolitan Institution comes out second best. Of 22 successful candidates, who have passed from the Metropolitan Institution, 10 have passed in the first division. We congratulate the Institution on this brilliant result.

THE FOLLOWING is a tabular statement of the First Arts Examination:

Names of Colleges.	Divn. I.	Divn. II.	Divn. III.	Total.
Presidency College	8	14	32	54
Metropolitan Institution	4	10	13	27
General Assembly's Institution ...	3	12	39	54
Sanskrit College	0	1	3	4
Free Church Institution	0	11	21	32
City College	1	7	15	23
Albert College	0	2	3	5
L. M. S. Institution, Bhowanipore ...	1	1	5	7
St. Xavier's College	1	2	3	6
Doveton „	0	4	3	7
Kishnaghur „	2	4	11	17
Dacca „	1	13	22	36
Hughli „	2	8	26	36
Berhampur „	1	4	5	10
Rajshahye „	0	3	6	9
Midnapur „	0	2	1	4
Maharaja's „ Burdwan ...	0	1	2	3
Serampore „	1	0	2	3
Chittagong „	0	0	3	3
Ravenshaw „ Katak ...	0	4	3	7
Patna „	4	4	10	18
Benares „	0	2	5	7
St. Stephen's M. School, Delhi ...	0	1	2	3
Jubbulpur College	0	4	6	10
Ajmere „	0	1	1	2
Moharaja's „ Jeypur... ...	1	0	2	3
Agra „	0	1	3	4
Muir Central „	2	4	7	13
M. A. O. „ Aligarh ...	0	3	4	7
Government High School, Rangoon ...	0	2	0	2
L. M. H. S. Benares	0	0	2	2
Canning College, Lucknow ...	1	7	8	16
St. John's „ Agra	0	0	1	1
St. Paul's School, Darjeeling ...	1	0	0	1
DeSale's „ Nagpur... ...	0	1	0	1
Trinity College, Kandy	0	0	1	1
St. Thomas College, Colombo ...	0	0	3	3
Teacher	0	1	3	4
Engineer (L. C. E.)	0	0	1	1
Total ...	35	134	277	446

The results are by no means satisfactory. The number of candidates was over 1300, of whom 35 have passed in the first, 134 in the second, and 277 in the third division, total 446. The Presidency College as a matter of course is the first in order of merit and the Metropolitan Institution the second.

WHAT we had apprehended is coming to pass. The agitation about the Rent Bill is naturally acting upon the minds of the ryots, and if the excitement goes on it will we fear produce serious results. We have received a private letter from Mymensing from which we give the following extract:

> The very name of the Rent Bill has excited the ryots to fanaticism in this district. The wicked portion of them by beat of tom-tom and other means are informing the tenantry that Government has ordered that no ryot shall be liable to pay more than 8 annas as rent per biggah. And a pleader is making a good business by offering to secure a permanent holding for the ryots on payment of a nominal rate of rent. Ryots are being given to understand that the rate of rent, which they will get registered in the said pleader's book kept for the purpose, will be forwarded to the Government of Bengal and thereon they will acquire mukrari title at the aforesaid rate, and enhancement of rent will be done away with once for all.
>
> In several villages of Pergunnah Mymensing the ryots have refused to pay any rent unless the Zemindars would accept it at the rate fixed by the Government as alleged by them. Some of our ryots of places adjoining this town petitioned His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor about some of their imaginary grievances and praying the interposition of the Legislature for their protection. In reply to one of these petitions His Honor has informed the petitioners that "a bill will soon be introduced in the Council and the just rights of the tenantry shall be preserved, but His Honor cannot tell them what form the Bill should assume." In reply to the other it is stated, I hear, that "the arbitrary enhancement of rent will be stopped." These orders have been interpreted to the ryots as meaning that they will not have to pay more than 8 annas per biggah as rent. A translation of these orders have been made to suit the fancy of the ryots and distributed almost all over the district and are being read out by the ring-leaders of this fanatic movement to the infatuated and credulous ryots in hauts and bazars.
>
> *P.S.*—Since writing the above information has reached me that the greater portion of the ryots of Mymensing Pergunnah refused to pay rents at the old rate on the ground that Lat Shahib will come to Nethrokonah sub-division on the 15th of Magh next and there His Lordship will openly declare that in future the ryots shall have to pay 8 annas per biggah and no more. On the 15th Magh there will be an Agricultural Exhibition in Nethrokonah sub-division, and this exhibition the ryots allege has been got up for the reception of His Lordship.

If things go on at this rate, we do not know where they will end. Let the authors of the Rent Bill behold the work they have done and—admire!

WE GIVE a prominent insertion to the following letter from a correspondent:

> I am glad to bring to your notice that the Government has been pleased to appoint another Commission for the purpose of making special enquiry into the destructive effects of inundation frequently complained of by the people of the District of Burdwan in connection with the abandonment of the right embankment of the Damudah river. The Collectors of Burdwan and Hooghly and some other gentlemen are appointed members of the Commission. If, as it is rumoured, the Commission mean to recommend only the mere patching up and restoration of the old line of enhancement on the right side, it will practically end in smoke. If the late outcry should lead only to this remedy, the people do not want it. Allow me to lay some facts for the consideration of the Commission. From Hijulna, a village on the right bank of the Damudah and further up, there is a khal which passes through *Teandul* and joining another creek known by the name of *Bachpurdah* near *Barabainan*, runs downward to the limits of the district of Hooghly. This khal which was the natural outlet of both flood and drainage waters, has now become silted up in many places since the Government has abandoned the right embankment and ordered breaks to be made for the safety of the railway. And hence the water not having a free passage to run down spreads far and wide over the country and thereby causes vast extent of damage both to crops and houses. This circumstance has greatly increased the inconvenience of the people of the Jehanabad Sub-Division since its transfer to the district of Hooghly. Greater portion of surplus water of the rains falls into the Roopnarayan near Baksi through Hoorhooria khal, which has of late become navigable throughout the year up to a few miles.
>
> These are briefly the facts of the case. The real remedy is to open the said natural outlet which had existed for ages as well as to construct a line of embankment only on the right of the khal. To extend this khal or canal to Hoorhooria will be an additional boon, which the Government can easily confer upon the people of three districts, Burdwan, Hughly and Howrah. It will also open an important water communication with the marts at Ghatal, Gewankhali, Midnapur, &c., at least during rains.
>
> The other course, viz., to fill up the breaks on the old embankment on the right side (to recommend which the Commissioners appear to be much inclined) or any retired line of embankment will be a remedy worse than the disease inasmuch as the Government will not keep it in such a state of repair as to endanger the Railway on the left side and also it will expose to the inundation more such of the people whose dwellings will fall within the line of embankment.
>
> It is needless to tell you that the obstruction to the natural outlet is a fruitful source of malarial diseases. It is my deliberate opinion that nothing but the opening of this natural outlet will save hundreds of villages now exposed to danger. The position of the lands, creeks and tanks, &c., has been materially altered and many places have become water-logged through the neglect of Government officers.

We entirely sympathize with our correspondent. We do hope that the Commission will do their work well and thoroughly. A half-measure will be worse than masterly inactivity.

WE ANNOUNCED last week the proposal of Mr. C. E. Buckland, the Magistrate of Howrah, for the establishment of a Town Hall for that Town. The scheme has since been matured, and the Municipal Commissioners of Howrah have sanctioned it. The Hall will be built upon the Municipal building. As Mr. Buckland in his prospectus says, "one great object will be gained—the provision of a spacious room, to which, with very slight restrictions in the interests of order and morals, the public will have the *right of entry for public purposes.*" We have not space to go into details, but we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing the concluding remarks of Mr. Buckland:

> The above scheme for a Town Hall appears to me feasible and would, I think, meet a decided want in Howrah. As a school of *political education*, I regard it as likely to be very important. I shall be happy to devote my personal attention to its establishment to the best of my power. But it is to the public, and especially to the richer members of the community, that we must look for co-operation and the subscriptions without which nothing can be done. In furtherance of these proposals, I shall be glad to receive suggestions and observations, and soon as possible, I would propose to concert measures for the collection of subscriptions.

When Mr. Buckland has thrown his whole heart into the project we make no doubt that it will prove a success. The cost of the proposed

Town Hall is estimated at Rs. 30,000. Surely the rich district of Howrah ought to be able to provide this sum without any difficulty. The people of Howrah must thank themselves if they cannot with the aid of such an energetic Magistrate as Mr. Buckland raise this comparatively small sum and supply a crying want of the Town. Our advice to them is to take as much good work out of him as possible as long as he stays with them.

We are also glad to learn that Mr. Buckland is zealously co-operating with the Bali Self-Government Committee in promoting the public objects they have in view. They have projected a Town Hall, a public school, and a public hospital, and Mr. Buckland is lending them his influence and energy in obtaining lands and other assistance.

WE ARE glad to learn that the City College has been affiliated to the Calcutta University in law, and that the three year classes will be opened at once. We understand that Mr. C. C. Dutt, Barrister-at-law, and Babu Upendranath Mitter, M.A. B.L., Pleader, High Court, have been appointed Lecturers.

THE LAST number of the *Calcutta Journal of Medicine* contains a valuable article on the prevalence of cholera in Calcutta and the Suburbs from the pen of its learned editor. It contains some important points for homœopathic practitioners, we may say for the whole medical faculty. The writer thus begins:

Cholera has been unusually frequent and unusually severe in the metropolis, its suburbs, and their adjoining villages since the beginning of last year.

The total deaths from cholera in 1881 were 1693. The mortality of this year to the end of November has already exceeded that number, by about 150 deaths. At the rate deaths are taking place from the disease, the mortality of the present year will exceed that of the past by no less than 400 deaths. The year 1880 was comparatively a healthy year in respect of cholera, having a mortality of only 805. The two previous years, 1878 and 1879, each showed much heavier mortality than 1880, though falling much short of 1881 and 1882. The deaths in 1878 were 1338, in 1879 a lesser number, 1186.

There does not appear to be any regularity in the appearance, frequency, and severity of the disease, as respects the time of the year. Thus taking the five years 1878-1882, we have March the worst month in 1878, May in 1876, November in 1880, April in 1881, June in 1882. The best month was September in 1878, October in 1879, June in 1880, June in 1881, August in 1882. We intend to return to the subject of statistics in the next number.

He then goes on:

The disease has proved rebellious even to homœopathic treatment. Indeed, in the present outbreak the new school has not proved itself as successful as it used to do in previous ones. And the old school has not altogether failed. Some of the practitioners of the old school have begun to roughly follow the methods of the new, or rather have begun to use some of its drugs, in doses not infinitesimal indeed, but very far from the ordinary heroic doses. Thus, they have begun to use arsenic (generally the Liq. arsenicalis hydrochlorici) in minim and even ½ and ¼ minim doses, and have sometimes succeeded. It is incumbent upon us to take note of these facts of success, especially when we have so often failed with our infinitesimals.

Homœopathic treatment, properly so called, ought to be successful in the treatment of cholera, as much at least as it has been in times past. When, therefore, treatment of cholera in the present outbreak under homœopathic practitioners has not been crowned with the success which pioneered its cause throughout the world, the explanation of the fact must be sought in either of the following suppositions: 1. The treatment pursued has not been homœopathic at all, or 2. not judiciously homœopathic, or 3. homœopathy is not applicable to all cases or to all stages of the disease. Notwithstanding that the homœopathic materia medica has become rich enough for cholera, yet it may be that the varieties which the disease presents are more than we have drugs with their similima. Those cases, therefore, which have no corresponding homœopathic drugs, can be treated homœopathically only tentatively and approximately, and not thoroughly. And the result of such treatment cannot be brilliant.

Accordingly the editor invites his "colleagues both of the new and old school to help him with their experience." We do hope that the appeal made by him will not have been made in vain. In conclusion the editor says: "In our humble opinion, during the prevalence of cholera, sporadic or epidemic, the smelling of camphor and the internal use of camphor are likely to be of more use, as destructive of the poison whatever it is, which gives rise to the disease, than any other procedure. But this we offer as a mere suggestion."

A WAG SENDS us the following:

Eh Eureka! what a rummy punch they have been brewing in the Bengal Council the other day with rum, whisky, and toddy over the Excise Bill! It was heady indeed! It set every one against his neighbours, each according to his temperament. One was all sarcastic, another all furious, a third grave as a judge, a fourth somnolent, and so on. It was a case of mistake all round, and all for nothing. For my part I am glad that *khajur ras* is declared an excisable article. My little boy Toby often pesters me of a morning for pice to buy *khajur ras*, and I shall escape that and save my pice by telling him that the *ras* was by law intoxicating, and little boys should not have it. Only I hope the little urchin will not carry a complaint to the Mem Sahib, for then my logic and the law of the land will not fare very pleasantly. Anyhow I enjoyed much that fling at the British Indian Association about their want of knowledge of the distinction between rum and whisky. The Honorable Member in charge of the Bill is reported to have said, "that rum was made from potatoes in Ireland would be news to most of the Council, but probably the writer of the letter meant whisky. Anyhow Mr. Reynolds could not but think that the gentlemen of the British Indian Association must have a poor idea of the intelligence of that Council if they thought that a transparent fallacy of this kind could be palmed off upon it for an argument." This castigation is as it should be, and, coming as it does from a gentleman who is at the head of the Abkari Department of the Board of Revenue, it should serve as a good lesson to the churls of the British Indian Association. The gentleman is doubtless perfectly familiar with the distinction between Glenlivet and Lorne and all about the genesis of spirituous drinks, and no such audacious attempt as that of passing whisky for rum should have been made in his presence. The case is entirely against the churls and no mistake; still may I ask logically what is the difference between rum and whisky? The churls in substance said that potatoes were converted into an intoxicating liquor (call it rum or whisky) and not taxed, and on the same ground *khajur ras* should not be taxed, though it may be converted into an intoxicating drink. Spiritually, too, there seems to be no difference, though I say this with every deference to the Honorable Member that rum, whisky, gin, and brandy are all ardent spirits, differing only in flavour, and that flavour is not due to the spirit, but to the doctoring which precedes, or follows, the making of it. Whisky differs from rum in having a smokey burnt russea leather flavour which the latter has not. This flavour is due to the roasted malt used in making whisky, and intensified by drying the malt on birch-wood, or peat, or both. Now, the ardent spirit which is distilled from potato is identically the same as that which exists in whisky and in gin, but it has neither the smokey flavour of whisky nor the juniper flavour of gin, and can it under the circumstance be called whisky? It has the flavour of pure rum which has not been tainted by the wooden kegs or barrels in which it is brought from the West Indies, and is it not therefore perfectly correct to call it rum? Doubtless rum is made from molasses, but so is some whisky made from the same ingredient. According to the 'Encyclopædia Britannica,' "whisky may be manufactured from barley malt alone, from raw or unmalted barley mixed with from a third to a ninth of malt, from a mixture of raw barley, wheat, rye, or oats, with from a sixth to a tenth of barley malt, or from a mixture of raw barley or big with sugar, or from sugar and molasses alone." Odd that the Encyclopædia in its exhaustive treatment does not name potato. The fact is, any spirits will do for whisky—provided it is so tainted as to acquire the peculiar flavour under notice. Whisky was originally made from malt only, but the heavy duty on malt has led of late to many adulterations, and potato and other spirits are flavoured with fusel oil, birch oil, or other ingredients, either put in adventitiously or produced in course of distillation. Thus potato spirit is not whisky, but it may be, and is often, converted into a fradulent imitation of it. In the same way potato spirit is largely converted into what is called "English brandy." Surely on that ground the Honourable gentleman would not say, potato yields brandy. Nay more, ardent spirit from potato and numerous other substances are now manufactured by the moral and Christian people of England into port, sherry, champagne and various other wines, but no one in his senses would say potato yields champagne, no more than that horse litter yields the essence of rosemary which sheds its grateful fragrance in select boudoirs. While on the subject let me quote the following for the entertainment of your readers:

THE CHAMPAGNE RING.

(A New Version of an Old Tragic Opera.)

SCENE—*A Banqueting Hall.* Madame LUCRETIA *and* Guests *discovered carousing.*

Madame Lucretia. And you find the Hideseek to your taste?
First Guest. Excellent! Behold my fifth glass. [Drinks.
Madame Lucretia. And you prefer Mumm's extra dry?
Second Guest. This finishes my second bottle. [Drinks.
Madame Lucretia. And you cleave to your Pommery and Greno?
Third Guest. To the end! I have taken nothing else. [Drinks.
Madame Lucretia. And you have dipped deeply into Roederer? You have all chosen brands of equal value?
Other Guests (drinking deeply). We have, we have!
Madame Lucretia (aside). At length, I have them in my power! *(Aloud.)* Know, then, that your hours, nay, your minutes are numbered! [*Awful melodramatic music commences.*
Guests (aghast). What! You surely joke?
Lucretia. You shall be the judges of the jest? You have taken freely of rare champagnes of well known growers.
Guests (reassured). We have! See the brands upon the corks—
Lucretia. All forgeries! *(General collapse.)* Ha, ha, I triumph! Know that every drop of Wine that you have drunk this night has come from the cellar of BROWN—
Guests (terror-stricken). Oh, horror!
Madame Lucretia. At thirty shillings the dozen! [Guests *die in agonies. Tableaux and Curtain*

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*January* 10, 1883.

GENERAL—29th Dec—Moulvie Abdool Jubbar, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Patna, to perform the functions of a Colr under section 4 of Act VII (B C) of 1880 in that dist.

Babu Jodoo Nath Bose, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Chooadanga, Nuddea, is transfd to the Khoolna dist, and posted to the sudder station of that dist.

Babu Nobin Kristo Sircar, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, in tempy charge of the Ranaghat sub-divn of Nuddea, is transfd to Rajshahye, and posted to the sudder station of that dist.

Babu Radha Kant Banerjee, tempy Depy Magte and Depy Colr, on leave, is posted to the sudder station of Burdwan.

Babu Bunkim Chunder Chatterjee, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Jajpore, Cuttack, is transfd to Nuddea dist, and to have charge of the Chooadanga sub-divn of that dist.

Babu Kedar Nath Dutt, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Bisirhaut, 24 Perghs, on leave, is transfd to Cuttack, and to have charge of the Jajpore sub-divn of that dist.

Mr E F Ainslie, tempy Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Rajmehal, Sonthal Perghs, is transfd to Chittagong Hill Tracts dists and to have charge of the Sungoo sub-divn of that dist.

This cancels order of 12th ult, apptg Mr H W Barber, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Noakhally, to charge of Sungoo sub-divn.

Mr R W Carlyle, Asst Magte and Colr, Jessore, leave for fourteen days, from 8th inst, or subsequent date.

Babu Kali Sanker Sen, khas tehsil, Depy Colr of Contai, in Midnapore, is vested with powers of a Colr under Act VII (B C) of 1880 in that sub-divn.

Mr H H Birch, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, whose services have been replaced at the displ of this Govt by the Govt of India in the Foreign Dept, is posted to Gya, from 30th Oct, 1882.

Mr E G Colvin, who has recently been apptd a member of the Bengal Civil Service, and who reported his arrival on 4th inst, to be an Asst Magte and Colr, Presidency divn, and is posted to the sudder station of the 24-Perghs.

Babu Bhai Baz Sinha, tempy Sub-Depy Colr, on leave, is transfd to the Sonthal Perghs.

Mr E J B Chapman, Sub-Depy Colr, Chandbally, Balasore, leave for fourteen days, from afternoon of 29th Dec, 1882.

Babu Chunder Coomar Dutt, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Nowgong, Rajshahye, leave for three months, from date he availed himself of it.

Babu Rakhal Dass Mookerjee, Depy Magte and Depy colr, Mymensingh, leave for three months, from 21st Dec, 1882.

Moonshi Mahomed Ghowsi, tempy Sub-Depy colr, Patna divn, is posted to Behar divn of Patna.

Moonshi Shaik Abdullah, tempy Sub-Depy colr, Behar, Patna, is transfd to the Sewan divn of Sarun.

Mr H Savage, Offg Jt-Magte and Depy colr, Backergunge, acted as Magte and colr of Mymensingh, from forenoon of 15th to forenoon of 21st Aug, 1882.

Advertisements.

Notice.

Wanted for the Barisal Municipality an Overseer on Rs. 30 a month. No one without some knowledge of Surveying and masonary work need apply.

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An experienced English teacher for the Halisahar School on Rs. 40 a month. None need apply who is not a graduate or who has not served as head-master in any H. C. E. School. Apply to the Secretary on or before the 27th January 1883.

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THE XVIIIth ANNIVERSARY

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1. Postal notes for fixed sums of money have from the 1st instant been available for issue to the public. They will always be obtainable from Head Post Offices, and generally from Sub and Branch Post Offices also. They will be payable only at Indian offices.

2. Below are shewn the amounts for which Postal Notes are issued, with the commission chargeable on each value:—

Postal Notes are of three values.	Rs. 2 As. 8 Re. 1 As. 8	Commission 1 anna. „ 6 pies. „ 3 „	Printed in black. „ red. „ blue.

3. Postal Notes are to be transmitted by the remitter by post or otherwise, not by the Post Office as in the case with money orders.

4. The remitter of a Postal note must, before parting with it, fill in the name and address of the person to whom the amount is to be paid. The person so named must, before payment can be made, sign the receipt on the back of the note, and also fill in the name of the Post Office (Head, Sub or Branch) at which payment is to be made. Should the name of a Sub or Branch Post Office be filled in, the money will be obtained by that Sub or Branch Post Office from the Head Post Office.

5. Every purchaser of a Postal Note should keep a record of the number, date and name of the Head Post Office of issue so as to facilitate enquiry if the note be lost.

6. After a Postal note has once been paid to whomsoever it is paid, the Government will not be liable to any further claim.

7. If any erasure or alteration be made, or if the Postal note be cut, dafaced or mutilated payment will be refused.

8. After the expiration of three months from the last day of the month of issue a Postal Note will lapse. A lapsed note will, on payment of a second commission be payable during a further period of three months, at the expiration of which the note will be forfeited.

H. E. M. JAMES,
Post Master General, Bengal.

2nd January, 1883.

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NOTICE.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

Notice is hereby given that the 1st and 2nd ranges of the Hidgellee Tidal Canal will be closed for silt clearance from the 15th January to the 31st March 1883.

Calcutta, } (Sd.) C. W. ODLING,
The 2nd January 1883. } Assistant Secretary.

NOTICE.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

Notice is hereby given that the 1st reach of the Midnapore Canal will be closed for silt clearance from the 25th January to the 15th February 1883.

Calcutta, } (Sd.) C. W. ODLING,
The 2nd January 1883. } Assistant Secretary.

NOTICE.

The interpretership in the Court of Chief Judge of the Court of Small Causes of Calcutta will be vacant on the 15th February next. Applicants are requested to send their applications, with copies of testimonials only before the 20th instant to the Clerk of the Court. A complete knowledge of reading and writing English, Bengali, and Hindustani is necessary as also some knowledge of Nagri. The pay is Rs. 150 per month and the successful applicant will be taken on probation only for about four months.

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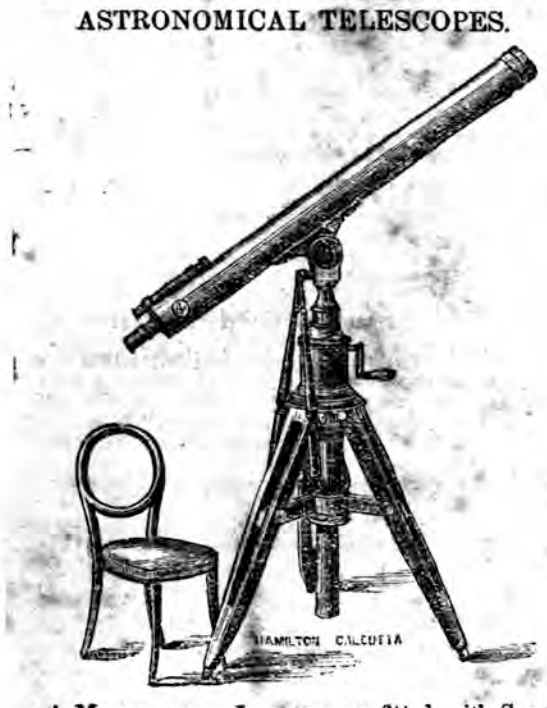

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